China weekly Review

密勒氏評論報

Why I Signed the World Peace Appeal

. . . C.Y.W. MENG

"TOUCH-ME-NOT"

. . . a short story by K'UNG CHUEH

THE PEOPLE'S POSTAL SERVICE

. . . by DUNCAN C. LEE

REVIEW TO CONTINUE . . .

AUGUST 5, 1950

JMP 4,000

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LETTERS From the People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the China Weekly Review.

RE-EDUCATION

To the Editor:

We have just finished studying the past 30 years' revolutionary history of China. At our school there are about 1,000 former Kuomintang generals and colonels who had mutinied against the KMT.

The whole group debated for three complete days (two sessions a day totalling seven hours each day) over such problems as the correctness of Chiang Kai-shek's policy in carrying out Communist suppression first and the war against Japan second. They also discussed whether Chiang Kai-shek or the Communists led the war against Japan and whether Chiang Kai-shek actually fought Japan.

Eventually all facts proved that Chiang Kai-shek's policy of Red suppression rather than uniting to defeat Japan was traitorous and that he did not lead the war but actually frustrated it as evidenced by Stilwell's diary, etc. The whole group with one or two exceptions agreed that Chiang's tenure of office was a permanent crisis and an incubator of chaos and warlordism of the worst kind in the political history of China.

I want to mention one of the many humorous things that took place during the hot discussions over these questions. One debater made a slip of the tongue and referred to Chiang as President Chiang. The whole congregation laughed hilariously. Then many of the ex-generals and colonels claimed that their war wounds were not made from being bitten by dogs. One of the presiding Communist officers had to cool off their hot-headedness by saying that they should not place their heroic war record on the credit book of traitor Chiang Kai-shek.

S. Y. LIVINGSTON HU

Chungking
July 2, 1950

JOBS FOR GRADUATES

To the Editor:

On July 10 the Educational Bureau of East China invited the responsible persons of various universities and colleges, the representatives of Students' Associations and representatives of the graduates to discuss and exchange opinions on a unified plan for the employment of college graduates.

The general secretary of the Higher Educational Department began his talk with an explanation of the instructions of the Central People's Government saying that college graduates should be enlisted to serve the people. The appointments will be made with special regard to the graduates' studies and achievements.

As for the graduates of Fuh Tan, they say that they are ready to go wherever they are most needed. At first a few of them insisted they wanted to work where they would receive the highest pay. For instance, one of them said, "I have a family to support. My father and my mother are too old to work and my wife is too weak to do anything. So I need to make a high income." A Shanghai girl said, "I was born in Shanghai, and I have never left the city. My mother loves me so much that she says she would rather see me jobless at her side than let me go away from her in search of a good position. So I insist upon working in Shanghai."

No matter how confused their thoughts have been before, one and all are now ready to give up their self-interests and personal considerations. They all voluntarily declare, "I can and will go wherever my country needs me most. Without national prosperity, all dreams of self-welfare are a mirage. In order to live better in the future, we must do everything we can to make our country rich, strong and prosperous."

This may serve as a good lesson to those undergraduates who have not so far made up their minds to serve the people wholeheartedly. It is obviously true that there is no outlet for the intellectuals unless they unite themselves with the working class, the peasantry and the soldiers.

FRANCIS H. CHOW

Fuh Tan University
Shanghai
July 20, 1950

A GOOD FRIEND

To the Editor:

About ten years ago, when I was a field-postmaster in the First War Zone, I first read the Review, which I found very interesting. Afterwards, owing to my frequent traveling, I failed to read it continuously.

After V-J Day, I received many copies of the Review from Mr. Duncan C. Lee, your contributing editor, and I found it even more interesting than before. And then I thought of writing a letter for the Review's letter column, but I was afraid because of my poor English.

Since the liberation of China's mainland, almost all of the public functionaries have rid themselves of bad habits such as drinking, gambling, etc., and turned to studying the new doctrines. I am one of them and have become very diligent in reading and studying both English and Chinese. I was persuaded and encouraged by Mr. Lee to write letters for the Review, and through your kind help, most of them have been published. Really, this cheered and encouraged me very much and made me progress a great deal in English.

According to the Common Program, there is freedom of publication. In present-day China English periodicals are very few. The spread of new China's culture to foreigners has depended partly on the Review. A newspaper in China, whether in Chinese or English, will be supported and welcomed by the Chinese people only if its contents are enlightening and progressive.

I hope the closure of the Review is temporary and that you will resume its publication as soon as possible.

CHANG SHU-CHI

Kaifeng Postoffice
Kaifeng, Honan
July 19, 1950

GLORIOUS HISTORY

To the Editor:

I am very, very sorry to hear that the Review will cease publication with the issue of August 5, as the Review is the only foreign-owned magazine in China which is universally loved by all mortals, both foreigners and Chinese. Here I must say that the contribution of the Review to China can never be forgotten by the Chinese people. The Review has its glorious history, which will live in the minds of the Chinese people forever.

F. H. C.

Shanghai
July 20, 1950

CONCERNED READER

To the Editor:

The announcement that you are going to close the Review has aroused much concern among your readers. As one of them, I personally think that you should reconsider your decision.

Ever since the resumption of publication of the Review after the surrender of Japan in 1945, you have constantly fought against the reactionary forces and sided with the people in the Far East. On the domestic affairs of China, you have exposed the corruption of the KMT and fought back its fascist rule by re-

(Continued on Page 179)

CHINA WEEKLY REVIEW

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REVIEW TO CONTINUE

IN the three weeks that have elapsed since we announced that the *Review* was to close, a number of developments have taken place which have caused us to reconsider the whole matter. While we still feel that our financial problems are so great as to prevent continuation in our present form, we believe that it is possible to continue the *Review* as a monthly publication. Therefore, beginning September 1, the *Review* will appear as a monthly.

One development which caused us to re-examine our position and to determine to continue our efforts was the wholesale expression of regret by our readers and their almost unanimous request that we find some method of "overcoming difficulties." Another has been the sharpening of the conflict between the forces for peace and the forces for war.

Time and again during the past few weeks friends, acquaintances and even people previously unknown to us have written, telephoned and called to ask that we reconsider our decision to close and that we attempt to carry on. A number of readers have offered their help, either in attempting to enlist new subscribers for the *Review* or in personally financing subscriptions to be sent to prospective readers.

The rapid turn of world affairs in recent weeks has been a prime consideration. America's adventuristic policy in Korea has misfired badly, but nevertheless the Truman administration is doing its best to scare the American people into a state of war hysteria so that they will accept a war economy as a necessary step and fail to realize that it is an illogical and, in the long run, absolutely useless palliative for the country's basic ills. The administration's all-out drive for war was clearly revealed by the irritated and brusque manner in which Secretary of State Acheson dismissed Indian Prime Minister Nehru's attempt to solve the Korean conflict.

Increasingly the eyes of people in the West are turning to Asia. However, despite this heightened attention, the people in the Western countries, such as America and Britain, have few opportunities to obtain unbiased accounts of developments in this part of the world. With most of the representatives of the Western press "covering" China from the colonial outpost of Hongkong and basing their dispatches almost exclusively upon planted Kuomintang rumors, plus gossip and other pap peddled by disgruntled self-styled "refugees," the need for objective reporting from this country is particularly great.

In view of this situation we are in agreement with those of our readers who have expressed the opinion that today it is more important than ever that the *Review* continue as a forum from which those who are fighting for peace may speak.

While we are prepared to do our best to make the *Review* a success as a monthly, we realize that we cannot do it alone. From now on we shall have to depend more than ever before upon our readers. For the past few years the *Review* has been able to carry on only because some of our other publications—mainly our translation services—have shown a steady profit which could be used to offset the *Review's* losses. For some time now the difference between the *Review's* losses and the surplus income earned by our other publishing activities has narrowed until in recent months there has been nothing left over.

However, by changing the format of the *Review* to a monthly magazine, we believe that we can reduce the *Review's* losses to a point where our income from other sources will be sufficient to keep us in business. If the *Review's* deficit is to be kept down to a manageable figure, if it is to reach an audience large enough to justify the money and labor spent upon it and if it is to provide as much useful material as possible, we will have to count upon our readers to help us boost the *Review's* circulation.

We realize that a great many of our readers are facing financial problems of their own and that even their subscriptions are maintained at considerable personal sacrifice. However, from now on we will be depending more and more upon our readers—depending upon them to renew their subscriptions promptly and to do their best to introduce the *Review* to their friends.

We shall contribute what we can to maintain the *Review* as a source of objective and informed opinion and as an ally in the fight for world peace. With the help of our readers we are confident that we can succeed.

CRACK-DOWN IN MALAYA

DESPITE elaborate propaganda designed to convince the world that Britain's colonial war in Malaya is merely a bandit suppression campaign and a necessary prelude to the establishment of democracy in that country, the real facts of the situation are becoming increasingly difficult to hide.

As the struggle of the people of Malaya for self-government grows in scope and intensity, the British colonialists are forced to rely upon stronger methods of repression. The more repressive British rule becomes, the more difficult it is for empire propagandists to pretend that Britain's ultimate objective is an independent and democratic Malaya.

Actually, the British are somewhat in the position of a dog chasing its tail. The more "insurgents" they shoot, the more determined becomes the will of the people to be rid of the British. Each increase of British military

strength is met by a corresponding increase of strength on the part of the people. The end will come when the British are unable to commit any more men and arms to Malaya. At that time the British will be forced into an ignominious retreat as was puppet Chiang Kai-shek in China and as are the American interventionists and their puppets in South Korea today.

In the early days of the conflict it was relatively more easy for the British propagandists to cover up the real intentions of the would-be empire builders. The conflict was on a comparatively minor scale, while the people's will to resist had not yet become completely solidified.

Today, however, the British, faced with an armed guerilla force which they to date have not been able even to match, let alone subdue, and a hostile civilian population, have thrown caution to the winds. Thousands of "suspects" have been jailed under the provisions of "emergency" decrees which supersede the normal laws. Many people have been executed under these provisions for minor "offenses."

Latest press dispatches from Singapore indicate that the British colonial overlords have openly abandoned all pretenses and have launched an all-out campaign to turn Malaya into a police state. One of the more recent moves has been against the press. Regulations similar to ones which provoked civil disturbances in the American colonies some 200 years ago and which would certainly produce serious trouble if tried in Britain today have been promulgated.

The regulations are aimed at publications carrying articles which are deemed by the authorities to be "prejudicial to the successful prosecution" of the war against the Malayan people or which "foment opposition" to Britain's participation in the American campaign to maintain Syngman Rhee's throne in South Korea. Not only do the new edicts give the British authorities power to suppress publication but they also provide jail sentences and fines for anyone who so much as possesses a copy of a publication containing an article displeasing to His Majesty's colonial overseers.

Those liable to the penalties provided under these decrees include the printers, publishers, sellers, distributors or reproducers of a publication prohibited from sale or publication. These penalties are imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine not exceeding $1,000 or both.

What's more, the mere *possession* of a prohibited publication brings imprisonment for not more than six months or a fine not exceeding $500 or both.

The regulations apply to foreign publications, imposing a ban upon the entry of any journal containing a displeasing article. Such publications may be destroyed, while travelers entering the colony may be searched to see if they are carrying a publication containing material critical of British policy in Malaya.

In a way, Britain's open repression of the peoples of Malaya serves a useful purpose since it presents the whole question in such a clear light that no one can any longer be confused as to the issues at stake. Like Chiang Kai-shek the British are promising their victims that they may have independence and democracy *after* they have ceased to agitate for it. However, like the long-suffering people of China, they can no longer be fooled and are taking matters into their own hands. They realize that independence and democracy are never "exported" by colonial and imperialist powers. They have to be secured through the people's own efforts.

25 Years Ago in *The China Weekly Review*

Shanghai Knitting Factory Workers

August 1, 1925

Most operators in knitting factories are girls and women with the exception of the machinists, dyers and overseers. A few male operators are on the night shift as it is inconvenient for female workers to come and go during those hours. The working hours are generally from six in the morning to six at night. Operators are paid on the piece-work plan and their wages vary from 20 to 50 cents per day.

From "Shanghai, China's Great Knitting Center" by B. Y. Lee.

How to Combat Drought

The present drought in Hupeh is causing considerable anxiety among the farming people. For the purpose of offering prayer to the God of Mercy for rain, Marshal Hsiao Yao-nan has ordered prohibition of cattle slaughtering five times, besides personally offering prayers in the temple, but he was rewarded only with a few minutes' shower. Now Marshal Hsiao has decided to order the prohibition indefinitely until a heavy rain comes. It is said that unless rain comes before long, famine is inevitable in Hupeh on account of the failure of the autumn crops.

10 Years Ago in *The China Weekly Review*

Chungking Declares SMC Action Illegal

August 3, 1940

Another vigorous protest against the action of the Shanghai Municipal Council in handing over land title deeds of the Shanghai area to the Japanese-controlled Special Municipality was handed to diplomatic missions of the governments concerned by the Chinese Foreign Office on July 24, according to a United Press report from Chungking. The protest declared the SMC action illegal, since the deeds had been placed with that body for safekeeping by the Municipal Government of Greater Shanghai. The SMC therefore had no right to hand them over to any other authority, especially a puppet administration, and the Chinese government declared the action null and void and reserved all rights in the matter.

Coastal Blockade Curtails Business

Japanese blockade of the China coast resulted in the closure of more than 300 cotton weaving mills and 500 knitting factories in Shanghai during July, Chinese industrial circles report. The blockade has had disastrous effects, too, on Japanese and Chinese cotton mills in Tsingtao, where the Japanese have had to cut down by as much as 30 percent in their production according to the Shanghai Mainichi.

The closed Shanghai mills represent half of the city's total. The Chinese reports declared that 30 percent of the cotton weaving mills continued to carry on with working hours reduced. Only 20 percent, the largest, have not slowed down their production. The knitting factories are all small concerns.

Why I Signed the World Peace Appeal

US intervention in Korea seen as strengthening world peace campaign. Writer says experience of China has shown that US military aid cannot thwart will of people.

ON the morning of July 7, the 13th anniversary of the outbreak of the Japanese war of aggression in China, I solemnly affixed my signature to the World Peace Appeal. I did so entirely because of the dictates of my own conscience. And I did so not without my reasons, which I wish to explain in the following lines.

First of all, I regard war as a crime, not only against the people of the victim nation, but against the whole of humanity as well. The world in which we live today is fast shrinking. Once war has been started in one part of the world, it is likely to spread to other parts, involving other countries and other peoples. Therefore, the one who starts war automatically becomes the world's "public enemy number one." War must be banished from the earth. One of the best ways to attain this objective is through the mobilization of public opinion throughout the world in opposition to war.

Secondly, it seems to me that there is no reason why the world should any longer permit a handful of warmongers and militarists to start another aggressive war at the expense of mankind. In the space of less than 30 years, the world has had two horrible wars. Our past experience has been that both World War I and World War II were started by a relative handful of despots who cared only for their own vested interests and who were unmoved by the death and destruction resulting from these conflicts.

People Need Peace

Thirdly, it is obvious that mankind can hardly afford another horrible war. What the people of all nations need most is peace so that they can proceed with the work of reconstruction and advance further in their struggle for a better life. Had the same amount of human energy and resources as were devoted to the last two world wars been used for peaceful pursuits, we would scarcely be able to recognize our planet today. Poverty could have been eliminated, all could have a decent and abundant life and many of the diseases and ailments which still afflict us would have been conquered.

The great tragedy is that the world's scientists, the pioneers of the modern world, are in greater or lesser degree forced to concentrate their efforts upon production of weapons of destruction. In America science has been almost completely subjugated to the military. As a result, even in the progressive countries, full attention cannot be given to the tasks of peace because of the fear and possibility that America may unleash a new and horrible war upon the world.

Fourthly, I signed the World Peace Appeal because I wish to give my wholehearted support to the foreign policy of the People's China. This policy is outlined in our Common Program which reads in part as follows:

"The principle of the foreign policy of the People's Republic of China is the safeguarding of the independence, freedom and integrity of territory and sovereignty of the country, supporting of international lasting peace and friendly cooperation between the people of all countries, and the opposing of the imperialist policy of aggression and war."

Fifthly, I signed the World Peace Appeal because I wish to throw my weight on the side of the common man in the world and to register my sympathy with the oppressed, the colonial peoples of Asia who, determined to rise from their long period of misery, are trying to regain their rightful position as free men.

Indeed, it is not difficult to see the rise of awakened humanity and the ardent desire of the people everywhere for changes in their lives and institutions. In fact, many far-sighted and progressive American statesmen and private observers have long championed the cause of the oppressed peoples of the world. For a while, under the enlightened administration of Roosevelt, it appeared that the United States might become a force for progress and peace in the world.

However, following the conclusion of World War II, it became clear beyond all doubt that reaction was triumphing in America and that, instead of becoming a leading force for democracy and progress, the United States was to become the fortress of reaction. The record of America's rapid turn to the right is too well known to need repeating. Step by step, the reaction, both at home and abroad, led the United States to its present sorry plight.

In Asia, America has given full support to the feudal-fascist Chiang Kai-shek in China, installed an American puppet regime in the Philippines, supported the British colonialists in Malaya, fostered reaction in Japan, established a would-be Chiang Kai-shek in the person of Syngman Rhee in Korea and supported Bao Dai, the French puppet, in Indo-China. These are all indications of America's intention to prevent change and to thwart the rise of the peoples of Asia.

But this powerful World Peace Appeal, which is being signed by millions and millions of people throughout the world, should be sufficient to inform Americans that the Truman Doctrine will ultimately fail, while the "war of liberation" waged by the oppressed peoples will surely succeed.

US Mental Bankruptcy

Lastly, in signing my name to the World Peace Appeal I intend to take part in the mobilization of the world public opinion aimed at correcting the mental bankruptcy of the present rulers of America. This mental bankruptcy, I may venture, is certainly one of the world's greatest sorrows.

The mental bankruptcy of American ruling circles has been glaringly demonstrated by President Truman's decision to carry out armed intervention in Korea and Taiwan.

During our war of resistance against Japanese aggression, the Japanese army used to rain a hail of death upon our cities. I can still vividly picture the tragic days in Chungking when large sections of the city were transformed into an exploding, crumbling, burning furnace in which thousands were bombed, crushed and burned to death.

In their bombing activities the Japanese apparently had one objective —to destroy the morale of the Chinese people. But, instead of being frightened, demoralized or weakened, the Chinese spirit remained undaunted in the face of the Japanese armed aggression and terrorism. Such indiscriminate destruction only hardened the Chinese will to resist and intensified public resentment. No matter how hard they might have searched, the Japanese could have found no better method for intensifying and solidifying the anti-Japanese feelings of the Chinese people. The butchering of family, friends and neighbors only serves to steel the nerve and strengthen the determination.

Similarly, America's bombing and shelling of Korean cities can only strengthen the will to resist on the part of the Korean people. By allying the United States with former enemies of the people such as the Japanese militarists, with reactionary ruling cliques such as Chiang Kai-shek and Syngman Rhee, and with colonial powers such as Britain and France, the present-day rulers of America have thrown away what prestige their country had in the eyes of the peoples of Asia.

The writer of this acticle, Mr. C. Y. W. Meng, has been a contributor to the Review for the past 15 years. Like many other Chinese who made the long trek to Free China during the war of resistance against Japan, he returned to the coast following VJ Day with high hopes for the future. The post-war disillusionment of Chinese intellectuals with the United States because of the American government's policy of blind support to the oppressive and unpopular Kuomintang regime, as well as their gradual realization that there was nothing worth saving of the KMT, can be traced in Mr. Meng's articles which have appeared in the Review during the past five years. In this article he tells why he has signed the World Peace Appeal.—Editor.

Failure of Intervention

I have seen the Truman Doctrine in action in this part of the world. Thousands of military advisers and uncounted millions of dollars of munitions were shipped to China by Truman in an attempt to bolster one of the world's most corrupt and reactionary regimes. But what was the result? Chiang's American-trained, American-equipped and American-advised army suffered one defeat after another at the hands of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. This defeat was not because of lack of arms, lack of men or lack of modern military advice, but due to the fact that the people did not support this army. On the contrary, the people supported their army, the PLA. Apparently Truman still doesn't understand the simple fact that without the support of the people, you are lost.

Now the same situation is taking place in Korea. The South Korean government of Syngman Rhee was a small-scale replica of Chiang's rotten, reactionary regime. Despite this obvious fact, confirmed by all independent observers who have visited the country in recent years, the United States has joined hands with Rhee in his doomed effort to put down the Korean people. Already, the "China pattern" is beginning to develop. South Korean troops are defecting or running away, while the advancing people's troops are reaping a bountiful harvest of discarded American military and other equipment.

Even the intervention of American troops will not change the situation. The conflict is barely a month old and already it has been revealed that even the American troops want peace and are not enthusiastic about fighting for the corrupt Syngman Rhee regime and its American masters. American prisoners have made broadcasts, issued statements to the press and passed resolutions, denouncing America's role in the Korean civil war.

The Korean People's Army will liberate the whole of Korea, will capture large quantities of American supplies, as did the PLA in China, and in the end the American army will be forced to withdraw, thus marking the failure of America's policy of "intervention."

Ideas Instead of Bombs

Throughout the post-war years we have been able to see, time and again, golden opportunities for peace lost because of the mistaken policies pursued by America's rulers. Instead of using America's resources for peace and progress, the Truman administration has thrown them away in a foredoomed attempt to stop the march of the common people of the world toward a better and more rational life.

One of the chief results of this senseless and hopeless policy has been the dissipation of America's "reservoir" of good will and the building up of a "reservoir" of ill-will. America, as personified by the present government, is disliked—even hated—by a growing number of people throughout the world because she now stands opposed to the people's democratic movements all over Europe and Asia.

Thus, in signing the World Peace Appeal, I hope to help arouse the American people to realize the seriousness of the situation facing them and to urge the American people to oppose the policies of the Truman administration.

The people will assuredly win the war of liberation which is being waged on many fronts in many parts of the world. Aid to discredited, reactionary regimes and cliques will not stop the people. American armed intervention will not turn the tide. In the world today ideas are more important than bombs—even atomic bombs. As noted in the American Constitution, it is the people who count, and, as borne out by America's own revolution, it is the people who will triumph.

— *C. Y. W. MENG*

Wanton US Bombing of Korean Civilians

A Hsinhua correspondent reports on the tragic results of US bombing raids against the civilian population of Korea, which he terms "mass murder." Instead of breaking the people's will to resist, it is increasing their hatred of the US interventionist forces.

* * *

AMERICAN planes are bombing the homes of the North Korean people with horrible savagery. . . . Just near Phyongyang, guards stopped the car and would not let it proceed because the city was being bombed. They are bombing from a great height, from above thick clouds. In such weather there is no possibility of aiming accurately or at all.

This is wanton, indiscriminate, mass murder. But what I saw yesterday in Wunsan was enough to prove that the American way of bombing is to kill as many ordinary people as possible. Wunsan is a little town of about 140,000. . . . There is a small dock, a few factories, and large areas of single-storied dwelling houses.

On the 6th, 7th and 13th of this month (July), the Americans delivered raids of increasing intensity. That of the 13th was the most severe, resulting in heavy loss of life.

On that day, waves of B-29's came in perfect weather for destroying such a city, rain and low clouds. For three hours in the forenoon they dipped below the clouds and bombed at will. Behind them came planes firing machine-cannons and rockets, blasting into the turmoil caused by the explosion of bombs up to 1,000 kilograms. They dropped more than 500 heavy bombs on that morning.

They chose deliberately the housing districts, and no hypocrisy about the "United Nations" or the American or any other way of life can deny it. . . This was a time of the day when you would expect mostly women, children and old men to be at home—they were. One thousand two hundred forty-nine people are known to have been killed in the three big raids. Detailed reports are so far available for 442 and of these, 195 were women, 125 were children and 121 men, mostly old.

Then there were the Red Cross hospital, the municipal hospital, a sanatorium in which 170 were killed, direct hits on the biggest girls' school, in the middle of a residential quarter, and on a boys' primary school near the beach.

In one congested workers' quarter an acre of ramshackle houses had been laid level by a giant bomb in the raid on the 13th. Men and women wandered listlessly over it, poking amid the rubble of their homes for bits of property. Over it still hung that smell of bombardment and death which is the same in any country. . .

The rescue workers had just discovered another man or woman stuck limply into the air, already covered with a black gauntlet of flies. About the town men and women trail, with little bundles on their heads—those who survived the smashed homes.

These are purely terror raids, aiming at nothing but smashing the will to resist of the Korean civilian people. Hitler tried it and failed. Now his mantle has fallen on Truman and America's jackals of the rump "United Nations." They will also fail.

A worker, Sun Wun Chu, whose wife and two children were killed while he was at work, told me: "They are dead and I cannot call them back. If I die it is little now. But I would give my last drop of blood to take revenge and drive those murdering dogs from our country. They tell me that my place in the fight is in production and I will work my fingers to the bone to produce more for the army."

On the way back over the misty mountains there was a constant stream of volunteers leaving the fields and setting out on the long walk to Phyongyang to join the army.

These bombings can only have the effect of making the defeat of America and her flunkeys more certain and more swift. But now, today, women and children are being killed, torn and bereaved in thousands and tens of thousands. It is time for the people of Britain, France, America and the rest of the world to intervene and put an end to the bloody crimes that are being committed in their name and in the name of the United Nations.

The story of a girl's new life

TOUCH-ME-NOT

by K'ung Chüeh (孔 厥)
translated by Shih Shan-yang

"Feng-hsien-hua we hate her,
Let the devil take her!"

FENG-HSIEN-HUA (Touch-me-not) was the nickname of Feng-erh, who was every inch a country bumpkin.

Early one morning, her mother brought her to my house. The girl paused before the gate fidgeting. After her mother whispered to her for some time, they entered the gate, but the girl stopped bashfully at the door of my room, fumbling with the hem of her jacket. Timidly she raised her eyes and looked from my face to the baby in my arms. Having greeted me, her mother nudged her, saying, "Go on!" Then she turned to me. "That's the way she is, shy. . ."

I gazed at Feng-erh in astonishment, wondering if something was not wrong with her. Her face was haggard, lean, sallow. A lank fringe of hair, moistened with water, clung to her forehead. She could not be over twelve but was as awkward as a girl in her teens. She felt abashed at her mother's comment and turned her face away. I caught a glimpse of her braid, around which a piece of bright red woollen yarn had been wound, making a band about an inch wide. The yarn, which contrasted strongly with her filthy black jacket, looked as if it had been put on fresh that day.

"How would you like to look after my baby?" I asked her. "Look, this is the baby. Only three months old, fair and plump." I lifted my baby in the air, and just then it smiled and held out its little hand.

"Look how lovely the baby is," Feng-erh's mother said. But Feng-erh didn't look up. She kept plucking at the hem of her jacket. Her mother fetched a deep sigh. "Simply too timid," she said to me.

"Don't be afraid," I said to the girl. "All you have to do is look after the baby. No other work, and no one will scold you or beat you. Do you think you'll like it?"

She made no reply. Her mother urged, "Yes, you'd like the job. Say it!"

"She doesn't seem very happy about it," I said.

The girl seemed to grow anxious. She gave me a quick glance and muttered something to her mother, her head held down. Her mother, annoyed at her manners, said "Perk up a little!" Smilingly she turned to me and said, "That's the way she is." Then the bent, middle-aged peasant woman set out for home, leaving Feng-erh with us.

* * *

WHEN my comrades came to the house, they were surprised at Feng-erh's awkwardness. The men asked, "Where did you get this lout from?" But the women comrades said, "The child seems honest, anyway."

Feng-erh was indeed very honest. Quietly she carried my baby in her arms and soothed it. She was neither idle nor mischievous. In less than a week I came to have full trust in her. Since I was the treasurer of the finance and reconstruction department, I often had thousands of dollars in the drawers of my desk. But with Feng-erh in the house, I could go out any time without worrying.

But Feng-erh was somewhat repellant. At first she was afraid of me and was constrained whenever I was around. Afterwards she got more used to me, but she never betrayed a trace of child-like innocence. Her dull bangs, her dirty, pallid face, her ugly braid, her ragged jacket reaching down below the knees, and, worst of all, her bound feet — I always felt sick at the sight of them. She looked neither like a child nor like an adult. She was like a scarecrow!

In an effort to make her more presentable, I got her new clothes, and a towel, soap, a toothbrush and toothpowder. But to my annoyance she seemed afraid and refused my gifts. I advised her to cut off her braid and remove her foot-bands, but she dared not. I was really mad! When I talked to her about these things she wouldn't look at me or listen to me. Sometimes, when I questioned her closely, she answered me as if she was talking to herself. "I'm a poor girl. I'm different," she would mutter.

Yes, she was different. She was always having a stomach ache — as she said, she had "a knot in her stomach." But she drank unboiled water all the same. Whenever she got thirsty, she would simply turn up her lean face, tilt the water-pot to her lips and drink her fill. At meals she ate only a handful of rice. I asked her what was the matter with her. She answered matter-of-factly, "I'm full. Can't eat any more."

"Is the rice bad?"

"No."

"Are the vegetables unpalatable?"

"No. But I eat only rice at home."

"Then you have no vegetables at home, have you?"

"Yes, we have. But they are not for me."

No matter what she said, I was sure she had always been half starved, and I worried a lot about her health. But she seemed to have gotten accustomed to eating so little.

In fact, Feng-erh was not bad-looking at all. True, her face was thin and dirty. But her eyes, though a little dull, were large, black and luminous. Her heavy eyelids and long eyelashes, which looked as if they were painted on, added much to her charms. When you looked her in the face she would lower her eyelids, her downcast eyes looking as if closed. But as soon as you glanced away, she would stealthily look up again. What an odd youngster! You got fed up with her. You pitied her. But you couldn't help liking her. But even though you liked her, she remained reticent, lonely, timid and gloomy, quite unlike the other children of the Youth Corps.

* * *

THE Youth Corps had a beautiful scarlet banner. In sunny weather they would unfurl it in the meadow, where it fluttered bravely in the wind, gleaming in the sunshine. The boys and girls, of the corps would first stand at attention in strict formation and then drill with spirit. "Eyes right! Eyes front!" Their voices rang through the air as they sang,

"The bugle is sounding,
The banner is fluttering,
The flame of fighting
On the prairie is burning.

The boys in the Corps served in the army as buglers or orderlies. Some of the girls had also enlisted in the Eighth Route Army, but most of them were nurses. They often came over to see Feng-erh in their leisure time. Again and again they asked her to join the Corps.

"How about joining us? You can carry the baby when you march with us." But Feng-erh shook her head. They were disappointed and criticized her testily. "You backward element! You are isolated from the broad masses. Yet you won't accept our opinion."

Their instructor had told them not to push her too hard, and recommended gradual persuasion as the right method of approach. But they were so eager for Feng-erh's membership that they forgot all about their instructor's advice.

After the children had gone, I tried to persuade her. "Why don't you join the Corps? There'll be classes and you can learn things." Feng-erh was sitting on the threshold, rocking the baby, and seemed as if she had not heard me.

"Won't you join them?"

"No," she said abruptly, after a short silence.

"You must have a reason for not joining them."

She apparently thought for a while, "Father will scold me."

"Oh, that's easy enough. I'll speak to your father."

She stared wonderingly at me over her shoulder. I told her how she could profit by learning. I was going on to tell her about the training one would get from collective life, when she cut me short. "I'm a poor girl, can't learn anything."

I simply got mad. I told her to sleep at the barracks of the Youth Corps dormitory, rather than going all the way home every night. She refused. I offered to put her up at my house. She also refused. She insisted on going home to sleep. Holding the baby in my arms, I looked at her, disgusted. "You're not a suckling, are you?"

She didn't speak, but stiffened against the door, her hands grasping

ing sky, I thought. "Her home is high up on East Mountain. The path is dark and there are bushes and jagged stones along the path. A slip or a false step and what will happen to her?" Owing to pressure of work, I couldn't let her go home earlier. Thus every evening she went off into the darkness, as if darkness were her home.

A few days later, I finally lost my patience with her, and shouted, "Groping your way home every night! There's no tiger here, I tell you; afraid you'll be eaten?" Then I thought of something. "All right, all right," I said, waving her away. "Hurry up home, but watch out for the wolf."

She was nonplused. "Why don't you go?" I pretended to urge her.

"There's no wolf in this neighborhood," she retorted.

"Humph! Packs and packs of them wander about from time to time. If you run into them, you're done for."

She was really frightened. Every nerve of her body tensed, and she fixed me with a rigid, fearful stare. I took advantage of her hesitation to arrange for her to sleep at the Youth Corps, dormitory, where she shared the *k'ang* with many other girls. Next morning I asked her, "Did you sleep well?"

A shadow of a smile swept over her face, "Fine."

"Did you find any tiger over there?"

"No. There's not so much as a louse," she said sheepishly.

However, she told me she wanted to go home earlier that night, and I had to let her have her own way. But the next night she slept at the dormitory again, and after that she always slept there.

* * *

HER hosts had a marvellous effect on her. When she first came, she was at a loss how to address me and avoided it as much as she could. I told her to call me by my first name, but she didn't, and when she had to draw my attention to something she found herself in a dilemma. But later on she got used to hearing other people call me by name and timidly followed suit.

One day she complained to me about the severe criticisms the Youth Corps members made of her. This was the first time she ever talked to me of her own accord. She had got familiar with the small fry and often, in the daytime, went over to spend her leisure time with them. All the boys and most of the girls were in uniform. They wore their leggings like veteran Eighth Route Army soldiers and they walked with exuberant vigor. Even the few girls in clothes were not as awkward as Feng-erh. In their eyes Feng-erh was too old-fashioned, and they criticized her.

That day Feng-erh had been so severely criticized by them that she was on the point of tears. "Well, what did they say?" I asked her.

"I've been in contact with the broad masses, yet they say I'm too..." said she, with her lip curled up, as if she were about to cry.

"Too what?"

"They always say I'm too..."

"Too *what*, for heaven's sake?"

"Too dirty!"

I put down my work and clapped my hands. "Exactly. Didn't I tell you to keep yourself clean? You never cared a damn what I said. Now you have only yourself to thank." She looked at me in perplexity. "Where are the towel, soap, toothbrush and toothpower I bought for you?"

Just then a comrade came on business and interrupted us. He left, and I bent over the baby, asleep in its cradle. Suddenly I heard a noise, and turned around. Feng-erh stood motionless, gazing at me blushing and confused. The soap was lying on the ground, the towel hanging from her hand. She was getting ready for a bath.

From that day on she began to keep herself clean. I helped her scrub her scalp, and then, scissors in hand, I stole up behind her. One snip, and her braid was off. Disconcerted, she burst into tears "Father will scold me," she blubbered.

"As long as you're with us, you've nothing to fear and if you have to go home later, you can depend on me," I reassured her. And I went on fixing her hair, bobbing it in the modern way. Then I cupped her face in my hands and looked at her closely, in profile and full face. I stepped back a few paces and looked at her again. "Very pretty!" I exclaimed.

Indeed, her bobbed hair set off her fair face to good advantage. But her filthy, wornout jacket looked all the uglier by contrast. Then I had an idea. I told her to take it off, and gave her my spare uniform, white with much washing. It was too small for me, and at least it was clean. She tried it on, turning up the trouser legs and putting a belt around her waist. I handed her a mirror; at first she hesitated, turning her face away in embarrassment. Finally, she looked. She was so pleased she couldn't help smiling, even though tears of shyness stood in her eyes.

Now that the ice had been broken everything went on swimmingly. With her bound feet, she once tripped badly on her way to the shelter during an air-raid. After that, she willingly let me "liberate" her feet and throw away the rank foot bands. Feng-erh was really spic-and-span now. When people saw her, they admired her, and exclaimed, "Oh! Is it you Feng-erh? What a pretty girl!" The Youth Corps danced a ring around her, singing a song of welcome; blushing she tried in vain to escape. Once she told me smilingly that the baby seemed to have become more attached to her; could it be because she was neat and clean?

At meals, I kept urging her to eat as much as she could, so that she would enjoy good health. She did eat more, and became stronger daily. What a pleasure it was to see her putting on weight!

* * *

NEVERTHELESS, Feng-erh lived in constant dread of her father's return from Sui-te, where he had gone on business. One day, her mother came to see her. At the sight of Feng-er's uniform, bobbed hair and unbound feet she was so thunderstruck and turned so pale that even the scars on her forehead turned bluish. The same fear overwhelmed her that had oppressed Feng-erh: what would happen when her father got back? I little dreamt that their fears were so well founded.

By this time Feng-erh had joined the Youth Corps. Every day she went to evening class, and as she kept early hours, there was no question of her failing to attend morning drill. The trouble was, she was very tired but, during evening classes, she told me that they were very interesting and so she didn't fall asleep. Sometimes they held meetings to review and criticize the conduct of each member, or to discuss problems of general interest, and she also enjoyed these.

But to Feng-erh, the most interesting of all was the politics class. Hardly a class at all, she said; the lectures were just like stories. The politics teacher was a veteran cadre who had participated in the famous Long March. She was a big woman with a red and fleshy face, her hair straggling down from under her cap. She was strong enough to lift up three big boys at a time. Speaking Mandarin with a Hunan accent, she was very apt to set her class laughing.

At the beginning, Feng-erh failed to understand the instructor, who told her not to worry and encouraged her to try her best. In a short time she had made considerable progress and could understand most of the lectures. Once, listening to the teacher tell the story of a woman, she wept in class.

"She was born a slave. During her childhood, she was a slave to her father, who was very strict. After she got married, she was a slave to her husband and was often beaten up by him. After her husband's death, her sons treated her very badly. Her father, her husband and her sons—they all enslaved her. Her fate was even worse then that of the average slave. Her feet were bound and she could hardly walk. She had little physical strength. Lacking education, she was muddleheaded. She was faint-hearted. She could not, dare not, struggle against her fate. She was fettered throughout her life, deprived of freedom and happiness."

The story sounded familiar to Feng-erh; she felt as if she knew the woman. Only she couldn't place her. . .

* * *

KNOWING Feng-erh nad heard many such stories, one day I asked her to tell me a story. I suggested the story of the Long March, but she was still very shy, and only murmured, "I'm not able to tell it."

I nursed the baby while Feng-erh sat on a low stool, practising writing characters with a little stick in a tray of sand. Her hair half-hid her face, which had filled out. The sunlight, filtering in through the white window paper, shone on her delicate rosy cheeks. She looked radiant in her uniform, like a real revolutionist. I watched her with delight and smiled.

Somehow she sensed my admiring smile. Her eyes had become bright and quick, and she had acquired an easiness of manner. Deep feelings smoldered beneath her reticence. Although she was much more active than before, she was still a quiet girl. In the Youth Corps they called her "big sister," though she was younger than most of them.

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" I asked her.

"I don't know," she answered, smiling.

"Come, think." She did think for a moment. Then she smiled at me but didn't speak. "Go on," I urged her.

"I want to be like you," she said diffidently.

"Pshaw! I'm not so wonderful," I said and pursed my lips.

She had stopped writing. She wriggled back against the wall, her face tilted up her eyes smiling, and remained silent.

"If you're an instructor, you can argue, write and fight," I said. But she shook her head. "Why not, you imp?" I demanded.

But she merely threw a sidelong glance at me with her smiling eyes, as if to repeat, "I want to be just like you." She reminded me of myself as a child. As my thoughts turned from the past to the present and from myself to Feng-erh, I was filled with enthusiastic expectations for her. I said, "Don't pay all your attention to studies. Try to cultivate your interest in attending drills and meetings, and leading a collective life. Try to learn to use your gun as well as your pen, and you'll make a fine revolutionist."

I thought she could not understand all I told her, but I was deeply impressed by the serious manner with which she listened to my advice. She promised me she would do her best.

On the same day, like a bolt from the blue, something terrible happened. Feng-erh went with another girl to the river to wash her towel. Soon the other girl hurried back and told me breathlessly that somebody had battered in Feng-erh's head and dragged her away like a stuck pig.

Instantly I knew what had happened; I knew it could only have been her father. He was a cruel man, with a livid, sinister face. One of his cheeks was creased and a small tuft of moustache jutted out over a corner of his mouth. When I first saw him, he glared at me. Later I learned he was Feng-erh's step-father and had been a landlord in the old days.

Now, I had no time to lose. Hastily, leaving my baby with the girl, I dashed out to Feng-erh's rescue. As I ran into his cave, breathlessly, he simpered, and asked me to sit down on the *k'ang*. But I was frantically looking for Feng-erh. The mother ignored me, staring vacantly into space. She looked frightened.

The cave was very dark. The walls were black with smoke, and the stove and the *k'ang* were covered with swarms of flies. Clouds of them flew about, buzzing, and I felt faint, my flesh creeping. The only source of light—a very poor one—was a small window. The inner part of the cave was so dark that I could distinguish nothing clearly. I heard sobbing behind the stove and went to look. In front of the grate I found Feng-erh, sitting waist-deep in ashes, crying bitterly.

She sat huddled in the ashes, holding a cloth to her head. I helped her to her feet, but she did not know it was I. She shrieked, struggled violently and wept louder. I pulled her towards the window to get a better look at her. I could hardly recognize her! Her uniform had been stripped off, and the torn shirt pressed against her head was dripping with blood, which trickled across her small white belly. My first impulse was to look at her wound, but after a look at her blood-soaked hair, I hesitated. I said, "Don't be afraid, Feng-erh. It's me."

She instantly stopped crying. Her hands dropped to her side, and her gory shirt fell from her head, showing her bloody face. For a moment we looked at each other. A shudder passed through me. It was difficult to tell exactly where the wound was, but evidently it was a bad scalp wound. Blood was still running down her pale face. She fixed me with her swollen, staring eyes. Her tears welled up, and she again burst out crying.

I took her in my arms and, choking down my own tears, I asked, "Feng-erh, my good girl, are you all right?"

"He . . . he threatened to break my neck," she sobbed.

The livid-faced devil sneered and his fierce voice snarled through his clenched teeth. "Comrade, you don't have to bother about my family. She's my daughter and has to obey me."

I was a little embarrassed, but I protested firmly. "Even if she were your own flesh and blood, in the new society nobody has the right to beat up people like this!"

Scrowling at me, he rasped, "But you have no right to interfere with the lao pai hsing's freedom."

"Don't talk like that. You're not free to maltreat others!"

All in a flash he flared up and raised his voice, "But it's none of your business. My daughter shall not be a government official, and that's that!" And he made a rude gesture. Craning his neck around, he darted an angry glance at his wife and thundered, "Are you dead? Give the clothes back to her and send her away!"

The woman was frightened. She hurriedly brought out Feng-erh's uniform, and said, "My good comrade, please take this back."

"What does this mean? Wasn't it you who wanted her to have the job?" I demanded.

She made no reply. Her hands were trembling. On her scarred face she wore a pitiable, submissive and wronged expression, as if to say, "it can't be helped." As she thrust the uniform into my hands a tear fell on my palm.

The man raged on: "I don't ask you to restore her braid and the other things. You can't do anything about that. Just give me her wages for three months. She'll take up some other work. She's no longer working for you and we have nothing do to with you." As he spoke he struck his heavy bronze pipe repeatedly against the edge of the *k'ang*. He must have used it often to beat his wife and child.

My blood was boiling with indignation but I restained my anger. "What kind of a bargain is that?" I asked. "She's no longer working for me? If she wants to work for me, you cannot forbid her without any reason at all."

"So you are forcing her to work for you?" the man shouted angrily.

"So you are forcing her not to work for me? Let's see who is forcing her!"

"Very well. Let her speak, let her speak." He pointed his pipe at the girl. "Do you want to work for her?"

Such a severe tone of voice! Such a fierce look in his eyes! I was afraid the child would be frightened out of her wits. I glanced quickly at Feng-erh and wished I could read the expression on her blood-and-tear-stained face. I felt tense, and my heart was in my mouth. I feared the frightened girl would, by a slip of the tongue, say something the man would use as a pretext to get her back. To my great surprise and relief, Feng-erh pointed with great hostility at the man, and, thrusting out her lower lip defiantly, she said in a choking voice:

"You . . . you oppress me. I won't obey you. I won't stay home. I won't stay home!" Her teeth were chattering and her voice was tremulous. Yet she was determined and resentful. I was moved to tears and reached out my hands. She grasped them tightly and we made for the door.

The man was dumbfounded. In a moment he ran after us, shouting at the top of his voice. He rushed out so recklessly that he nearly fell over the cliff. I turned round to face him.

"My good fellow, be reasonable."

Before he had time to get over his surprise, we went away.

On the same day, the village government stepped in and settled the affair through mediation. The man agreed to Feng-erh's enlistment in the Eighth Route Army.

On hearing the news of victory, the Youth Corps joyously sang,

"Feng-hsien-hua, welcome her,
All of us welcome her."

THE PEOPLE'S POSTAL SERVICE

For the first time in China's history, there is a unified postal service, whose aim is to render service to the people and raise their cultural level.

TODAY, when we mail a letter either in the downtown area of a city or in a remote village, we may be sure of its rapid delivery to any part of people's China. This is a great achievement, considering the history of China's postal service, when such facilities have existed only intermittently. Nevertheless, the various efficient services of the old China Post Office (CPO) were satisfactory and even impressive.

Before the creation of the Manchu Imperial Post in 1896, the Chinese people utilized private post offices, while foreigners mailed their letters under the auspices of the Customs House. During the succeeding years, the post office was controlled by foreign imperialists and KMT bureaucrats, while its functions were confined to certain areas.

After the establishment of the Chinese Republic in 1911, China was torn into many pieces by the warlords. The dark age of the civil war set her postal services in confusion. Negligence and military destruction played havoc with the Min Hsin Chü (private post offices), which had themselves barred the development of a national postal service.

After the establishment of the KMT regime in 1927, postal services were often interrupted. First came the Japanese invasion of Shantung in 1928, followed by the Mukden Incident in 1931; the establishment of the puppet Manchoukuo in 1932; the anti-communist Special Administration of East Hopei in 1933; the Japanese occupation during the last war—all these naturally hampered postal services to a great extent.

After V-J Day, the KMT, in its effort to blockade the liberated areas, refused exchange of mail with the post offices of the liberated areas. If any letters infiltrated into the CPO from the latter, they were seized; while, often before a city's liberation, CPO personnel would retreat to the KMT areas, thus paralyzing the city post offices.

Postal Service

While the CPO, under the KMT, was concentrating its efforts chiefly on maintaining postal services to the limited urban population, the post offices in the liberated areas were serving the masses—the millions of peasants, workers and the PLA. As few people know about the postal services in the liberated areas, I shall outline briefly the history of the People's Postal Service.

When the Japanese occupied the Northeast, the CPO personnel withdrew to unoccupied China and the Manchoukuo puppets established their own postal service, which fell apart after V-J Day. In early 1946 it was still being operated, although insufficiently and ineffectively, by the provincial authorities.

In October, a Northeastern Postal and Telegraph Administration was established, which linked the post offices in north Manchuria with those on the railway routes. But in the southern provinces, such as Antung and Liaoning, where the war was still in progress, postal services remained under the provincial governments.

The first postal conference for all provinces of the Northeast was convened at Harbin in February 1948. Following liberation of the entire Northeast, all the postal services were unified under a Directorate-General of Posts and Telegraph of the Northeast.

Great improvements were made during this period. For example, in line with the land reform program, the post office diverted some of its energy to help widen the circulation of newspapers in the countryside; and to help support the front lines, field post offices were established in the army.

More Businesslike

To keep in line with government policy, all post offices in the Northeast were reorganized and their structure simplified in 1949 so that they could be run as "business corporations." Five postal districts and a special area were set up.

In order to get a good start in building a better postal system a five-year plan was worked out, with various programs for business developments and reorganization. Parcel post and remittances with other parts of China were also opened to the public.

Personnel of the Northeast Post Office numbered an estimated 3,000 in 1949, handling an average of 4,904,491 letters, 17,893 packages and JMP 665,562,755 in money orders monthly. Postal routes covered a distance of 26,250 miles and there were 1,863 post offices.

In north China, after the Marco Polo Bridge Incident in 1937, the Japanese overran most of the area and controlled the main communications. The patriot forces had to set up their own system of communications to facilitate the exchange of mail and information, and transport books and newspapers.

In June 1940, the Taihong Political Association set up a new "joint circulation" department which united the various organs that had previously dealt with the circulation of the *New China Daily News* and the *Victory News*. In June 1942 it issued its first postage stamps. In September 1942, it amalgamated with two other similar departments of the Tsinan and Taiyuan Political Administrations. The combined department was put under the Directorate-General of Communications, which also controlled many other sub-offices and stations.

The Shansi-Hopei-Shantung-Honan Border Region Government inaugurated its postal administration in January 1946. By this time only a handful of CPO personnel were working in the liberated areas; most of the post offices had moved to KMT-held areas during the first half of 1943. By 1946, 115 offices and 97 postal agencies of the CPO had been taken over. During the six years from 1940 to 1946, the postal workers in the liberated areas experienced extreme hardship, suffering and danger, and many sacrificed their lives while in line of duty.

In the Border Region of Shansi-Chahar-Hopei, communications outfits were called variously Chiaotung K'e (Communications Section), or Chiaotung Pan (Communications Company). It was only in April 1943 that a unified service came under the control of the Chiaotung Tui (Communications Battalion).

In November 1943, the Communications Battalion was merged with the newly-established Border Government Department of Communications. In April 1945, this department was enlarged and became the famed Chiaotung Chu (Bureau of Communications), directed by the secretary of the Border Government, which took up the matter of establishing a regular postal service.

The Shansi-Chahar-Hopei Border Region Postal Administration was formally inaugurated at Kalgan on October 5, 1945, after the Japanese surrender. Its chief initial task, to take over the various post offices in the region and amalgamate them, was completed in rudimentary form by early December 1945.

However, in 1946 the KMT armies advanced on Kalgan, and the Border Region Postal Administration had to move to Fupin (Hopei) and later, in December, to Taiyuan. In 1948, when the war of liberation was progressing smoothly, it moved to Shihchiachuang, where it was combined with the General Post Office of the Shansi-Hopei-Shantung-Honan Border Region. The new organization was called the North China Directorate-General of Posts. It then moved to Peking, which was peacefully liberated in January 1949.

Postal Work Increases

After the liberation of Peking and Tientsin, postal business in north China greatly increased. In August 1949, mail handled amounted to 6,700,000 articles, 225 percent of the January figure, and parcels handled rose to 50,000, which was 1,677 percent of January. The handling of parcels in Tientsin showed an extraordinary increase, totaling 49,000 parcels in July, about 67 percent of the total number of parcels handled in north China.

In October 1949, military airplanes carried letters from Peking to Lanchow, marking the first use of airmail by the People's Postal Service. Foreign mails were transported to Hongkong or loaded on vessels sailing directly to foreign countries. Mail for the USSR and East European countries was transported to Harbin, and mail for Korea was exchanged at Antung (Northeast). Contracts for exchange of mail with the USSR and

Korea had already been signed. Postal workers in north China in 1949 totaled 8,425. The monthly average of mail handled consisted of 5,831,196 articles, 35,618 packages and money orders amounting to JMP 1,036,512,786. Postal routes totaled 12,000 miles, and there were 3,405 post offices.

In the Northwest, the north Shensi Post Office was set up at Wayaopu in May 1935 under the direction of the provincial government. In October, a Directorate-General was formed under the Internal Affairs Department of the Northwest Office of the Chinese Soviet. Each *hsien* had its own post office, and towns 15 to 25 miles apart had postal stations. Each postmaster had several "staff couriers." These postal establishments were limited to the carrying of letters, newspapers, books and registered and express articles.

Working with the People

The postal service at that time kept close contact with the people and local governments. Both countryside peace corps and "communication couriers" were obliged to deliver mail. As the couriers were intimately connected with the peasantry, the peasants or their children might take over their duties at the time of siege, pursuit or other danger. If the peasants were discovered, they pretended to be woodcutters.

Then too, the courageous postal employees worked hard and hand-in-hand with the political cadres. Often the courier had to put on sheepskin and crawl, or imitate the bark of a dog to infiltrate and cross the blockaded lines. Sometimes the cadres would cook meals for them and deliver their letters.

As the headquarters of the People's Army and the central organization of the Communist Party were in the Northwest during the Sino-Japanese War, the post office did its level best to maintain communications. The service had three special aspects: it was simple and mobile in structure (the directorate-general had only two departments); procedure was simplified; and mail from soldiers and government personnel was carried free of charge.

Postal workers were close friends of the peasants, supplying them with news and often helping them with their work. The peasants in turn helped postal workers to cross the lines. But even with the peasant's help, postal workers still endured many hardships and dangers. They often lost contact with the post office, or went astray in the mountains, where they had to struggle against starvation and wild animals.

During the latter half of 1948, as liberation progressed speedily, the chief job of the Northwest postal service was to take over the CPO. Under the directive of "not to smash the original structure of the enterprise taken over," the work went smoothly. Even before the liberation of Sian, a representative of the CPO went to negotiate the exchange of mail with the liberated areas. He was so favorably impressed by the assurances given by the liberated areas postal authorities that when the Sian Post Office was taken over all was well protected. This had a good effect on other post offices in the region.

In 1949 there were 3,512 postal workers in this area, and the average monthly mail handled consisted of 1,124,585 articles, 1,300 parcels and money orders totaling JMP 347,980,949. There were 22,250 miles of postal routes and 870 post offices.

In the east China area, the people's postal service grew up amid the guerilla warfare against the Japanese. It first came into being in the form of a section of the local people's government and the army. It was in charge of carrying government and military orders, official correspondence, circulation of newspapers, and keeping officers and cadres and their families informed of each other. In 1941, the wartime post office was set up in the Pohai and Chingho areas of Shantung province, and January 1942, another was set up in south Shantung. In February a wartime Directorate-General of Posts for all Shantung was established. Meanwhile, communication stations had been set up in the Kiangsu-Anhwei Border Region. In February 1946, the wartime Directorate-General of Posts was reorganized as the Shantung Head Post Office; and in August 1948, a resolution was adopted to run the post and telegraph business under one organization. A Ministry of Posts and Telegraph was then established in Tsinan and Hsuchow simultaneously, with several branches in other important localities.

As the provinces south of the Yangtze were speedily liberated, the Ministry moved south and was renamed the East China Ministry of Posts and Telegraph. In addition to this, another Directorate of Posts was set up, which was later reorganized as the Sub-Directorate-General of Posts of East China after the establishment in Peking of the Directorate-General of Posts for all China.

There are six head post offices governing the six postal districts of east China: Shanghai, Shantung, Kiangsu, Fukien, Chekiang and Anhwei. Most of the post offices were taken over from the CPO.

Indispensable Service

There were some interesting features of the east China people's postal service before the expedition to liberate south China. The postal workers were the sole messengers that kept besieged areas informed. In addition to the delivery of mail, they took up the duty of safely conducting personnel and livestock across blockade lines. However, almost 70 percent of the postal work was devoted to the circulation and distribution of newspapers. Here the postal workers rendered an indispensable service to the people, even delivering papers to enemy-occupied cities and strong points.

The east China post office served as an information bureau for the Party, political organizations and the PLA. Because postal workers were well acquainted among the peasantry, they found it possible to obtain important secret information as they went their rounds. They went armed, and were frequently forced to fight isolated attacks and be on their guard against enemy secret agents. They were of great help to the government during the most difficult period of the civil war, and were essential connecting links between the people, government and army. It was during this period of the civil war that the Shantung postal workers laid the foundations of the rural postal service.

Two types of post offices, the Field Posts and Front-Supporting Posts, were established in early 1942. The telegraph service began to work with the field postal service in 1948, and during the Battle of Hwaihai 300 telegraph and postal workers were working along the 300-mile front.

In 1949, 20,601 east China postal workers handled an average monthly mail of nearly 14,000,000 letters, about 113,000 parcels and money

Liberation War Statistics

A RECENT communique from PLA headquarters, which summed up the past four years of the liberation war, revealed that the KMT lost more than 8,000,000 troops, while an area of nearly 8,500,000 square kilometers, with a population of more than 482,000,000, was liberated. During the four-year period, the PLA lost slightly more than a million and a half troops. The ratio of KMT losses to those of the PLA was 5.3 to 1.

Of the KMT losses, nearly 4,600,000 were taken prisoner and more than 1,700,000 were casualties, while 633,510 surrendered, and nearly 1,150,000 went over to the PLA. The latter lost more than 1,300,000 as casualties, 13,700 were taken prisoner and 196,100 were listed as missing.

War materials captured by the PLA included 54,430 artillery pieces, nearly 320,000 machine-guns, 3,161,912 small arms, 21,462 grenade throwers, 15,191 rifle grenade throwers, 228 flame throwers, 189 planes, 200 naval vessels, 622 tanks, 389 armored cars, 1,016 locomotives, 22,012 motor vehicles, 195,475 horses and mules, nearly 508,000,000 rounds of ammunition, more than 5,500,000 shells, 3,600,000 hand grenades and 700 tons of explosives.

In addition, the PLA brought down 190 planes, destroyed 156 tanks and sank nine naval vessels.

During 1949 alone, the KMT lost 2,379,950 men, of whom 1,122,740 were taken prisoner, 173,300 were casualties, and the remainder either surrendered or went over to the PLA in units. The ratio of KMT to PLA losses in 1949 was more than 26 to 1.

orders totaling nearly JMP2,500,000,000. There were 17,453 post offices along 127,000 miles of postal routes.

The central-south China postal district includes Hunan, Hupeh, Honan, Kwangsi and Kwangtung. When, in the latter half of 1947, Generals Liu Po-chen and Teng Hsiao-ping crossed the Yellow River and liberated parts of western Honan, Shensi, Anhwei and Kiangsi, a Control Bureau of Communications, under a Director-General, was established. In June of 1948 the first postal administration was set up in western Honan and in October, when Kaifeng was liberated, all employees of the CPO who remained were reemployed. Fourteen post offices in western Honan were taken over.

In June of 1949, the Kaifeng postal administration was enlarged as the Chungyuan Postal Administration for the whole liberated district. Later the same year, the Anhwei post offices were transferred to the east China district, and the Control Bureau and Directorate-General were abolished.

The Hankow administration, established in May, was shortly reorganized as the Central China Postal Administration.

In the southwest, the people's postal service covers Szechuen, Yunnan and Kweichow. With Szechuen divided into two districts, there are four postal administrations in the area. The former post offices were taken over without much change.

Centralization Achieved

After liberation of the mainland, an All-China Directorate-general of Posts was formed in January 1950. Sun Yu-nung, long-time postal worker in the liberated areas, became director-general; Chao Tze-kang, east China Party worker and Ku Chun-fan, former CPO director-general, were named deputy directors-general. To unite the previously separated postal and telegraph services, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was inaugurated in Peking. Named as minister was Chu Hsueh-fan, famous labor union leader during KMT days, who, fed up with Chiang's oppressive rule, went over to the Communists.

Many changes have been made in the brief period since the establishment of the all-China postal service. For one, because previously used titles of various grades of employees had feudalistic connotations, these were changed.

All temporary employees working up to six months have been taken on as regular workers, and the "bond system," regarded as a means of enslaving postal workers, was abolished.

Another change is that postage rates are now calculated on a grain scale, in terms of millet. This rate is not adjusted unless the price of millet fluctuates by more than 25 percent. Since the recent drop of all prices, the first reduction in rates was made from JMP1000 to JMP800 for an ordinary letter.

The new postal service was renamed the People's Postal Service of China. Green is still the postal color. Also the post office has undertaken the circulation and distribution of the *People's Daily News* and other large newspapers.

Though postal routes have been reestablished over five-sixths of the total pre-war length—now extending about 333,000 miles in the main routes and 161,500 miles in rural routes—much remains to be done in readjusting and rebuilding. The 1950 plan is to develop rail, highway, air and steamship postal routes.

Railway postal routes radiating from Peking will be extended about 6,250 miles.

A network of sea routes will radiate from Shanghai through various ports to the USSR; to Canton; to Chungking; and Europe and America. The chief effort will be directed to the expansion of internal means of conveyance, and contracts will be made with both public and privately owned shipping companies.

A network of airmail routes will be set up with at least two lines: one from Peking to Sian, Lanchow, Tihwa and Illi connecting with Alamutu (USSR), and the other from Hankow to Chungking. In April this year the first line was inaugurated by the Sino-Soviet Joint Air Company. All transportation companies will have to provide space for mail.

In order to speed up and expand mail transportation into the interior, postal highway routes will be widely readjusted and developed.

As for branch and connecting postal routes over smaller waterways and highways, letters will be carried by bicycle, man power and animal power.

Under the direction of the Directorate-General of Posts for All China, post offices throughout China will be conducted as "business corporations" instead of as "Yamen" during the KMT reign. A production plan has been worked out to combat the deficit accumulated since the last war. A total revenue of 455,597,585 catties of millet is expected from the various postal districts in 1950.

Balancing Budget

As the number of post offices will be increased in 1950 from 47,773 to 74,587 and the main postal routes from 332,700 miles to 469,800 miles, expenditure is estimated to be about 631,000,000 catties of millet, thus creating a deficit of about 175,402,415 catties. Although the government has approved a loan (not a subsidy) of 97,000,000 catties, the postal workers will have to strive to balance the remaining deficit of 78,402,415 catties.

Although in the first quarter of this year most of the post offices reached the targets of their own plans, it is estimated by the postal authorities that the post office will show a deficit this year, and with government help will be self-sufficient in 1951, while in 1952 it is hoped that the post office will make a profit.

An intensified effort will be made to develop rural posts. It is believed that the post office will thrive after the land reform has been completed. The present policy is to readjust and strengthen rural posts and build new post offices in important localities along the following lines: (1) postal routes will extend to *hsien* (county) seats in the remote and sparsely populated provinces such as Sinkiang, Sikang, etc. (2) Rural postal routes will reach to Chü (sub-counties) in provinces with poor communication facilities such as Yunnan, Kweichow, Kansu, Chinghai, etc. (3) In the densely populated provinces, rural postal routes will reach the larger villages if communication facilities permit.

The organization of rural posts will be of three types: (1) service by the post office itself (as in Shantung and north China); (2) surplus rural labor hired to maintain village postal routes (as in most parts of north China); and (3) centralization of work so as to mobilize and organize the peasants for volunteer work.

The delivery of mail to rural districts must be carried out once a day, or every two days in the larger villages or where trade is prosperous. Services to villages with few inhabitants, if infrequent will be regular.

Best results have been achieved in Shantung, where there are a total of 480 postal stations and 892 letter-boxes (stations or shops with a letter-box at the door, selling stamps, receiving ordinary letters). The postmen there call at the villages every two or three days. Formerly, mobile post offices called at villages only on market day.

As outlined above, the people's postal service developed the circulation and distribution of newspapers, in addition to the carrying of mail. It still concentrates on this particular work. This is one of the striking differences from the postal service in capitalist countries. This method was initiated by the Soviet Union and has developed into a successful postal service. About 80 percent of the postal work in the old liberated areas was devoted to this branch of the service. In the new China it is regarded as a "political task" of the postal service.

The *People's Daily News* of Peking, which has a nation-wide circulation, and the *Giefang Rhbao* of Shanghai have already turned their circulation departments over to the post offices of Peking and Shanghai. Most of the head post offices throughout China have set up circulation departments. To date, 68 of the 258 periodicals in China have their circulation handled by the post office. Every day the post office distributes over 1,500,000 copies of periodicals, among them 1,416,382 copies of newspapers, which constitutes 52 percent of the total amount published in all China.

There are other important tasks to be undertaken in 1950. These include the sale of revenue stamps; sale of passenger tickets for ships, trains, buses, etc.; business of National Treasury; sale of books for various book stores; receipt and issue of public funds and taxes; agents for merchants; service and other entrusted business such as seeking accommodation for travelers, registration and inquiry of stranded persons, writing bills and letters for illiterates, etc.

At a time when new China is bent on vast reconstruction programs, the 20,000 hard-working postal workers from the old liberated areas, in cooperation with the 33,000 well-organized former CPO workers look forward to a bright future of the People's Postal Service of the New Democratic China.

— *DUNCAN C. LEE*

CHINA AFFAIRS

NATIONAL

Land Reform in Action

THIS coming winter will witness the carrying out of land reform in central and south China, an area having a total of 50,000,000 people. This represents 50 percent of the total population in land reformation areas throughout all of China, according to the Shanghai *Ta Kung Pao*.

The work in this area is to be carried out in three stages: preparation, implementation, and the summing up of experiences. The preparatory period has already gotten under way and will last until October. During this period various provincial people's governments are to mark out land reform areas, draw up detailed particulars for carrying out land reform, readjust peasants' organizations, train cadres, and prepare publicity campaigns regarding reform.

The second stage, in November and December, will see land reform carried out on an experimental basis. In the third stage, extensive land reform work is to be undertaken from January through April of next year.

Reports from Honan province state that land reform was completed in half of that central China province during the spring. The area affected is inhabited by around 17,000,000 people.

According to *Hsinhua*, land reform in Honan was carried through on the basis of solid preparations which were made during the past two years. A series of social reforms, such as the elimination of bandits, the fight against local despots and the carrying out of rent reduction, resulted in putting an end to the disturbances caused by bandits, while the landlord class was weakened economically and feudal rule in the countryside was undermined. The raising of the peasants' political consciousness along with the growth of their mass organ—the Peasants' Association—helped to establish their supremacy over the landlords. This was followed by ever-increasing demands for land on the part of the peasants.

After considering the number of available cadres, the organization and the political consciousness of the peasantry, the people's government and the Communist Party Provincial Committee decided that land reform should be carried out in half the province and completed before the harvesting of the wheat crop. In order to obtain experience, experiments were made in seven counties last winter to ensure that things would be carried out smoothly and reform completed throughout 43 counties in the spring.

At the same time, the interest of the people was heightened by an intensified publicity campaign. By means of People's Representative Conferences and Peasants' Representative Conferences at all levels everyone was made aware of the aim of land reform. In Hsuchang country for example, during the three months of land reform, 886 different meetings were called to discuss the problems. In every village there were meetings of farm laborers, poor peasants, middle peasants, women, youths and landlords.

Following the completion of land reform the peasants displayed great enthusiasm in production immediately after obtaining land for themselves. More than 40,000 peasants who had been driven away from their native villages by natural calamities or by the harsh exactions of the landlords returned to obtain land due them.

Air Lines Resumption

THE Civil Aviation Bureau of the Central People's Government has decided to resume civil aviation in China, according to the Shanghai *Liberation Daily*. Under the plan, the beginning of August was to see civil air lines back in operation.

The Shanghai paper's story stated that two main lines and four subsidiary lines were to be inaugurated. One of the main lines connects Tientsin with Canton via Hankow while the other is from Tientsin to Chungking, also via Hankow. The subsidiary lines are Chungking-Chengtu, Chungking-Kunming, Chungking-Kweiyang and Chungking-Hankow.

For the present, the service is to be chiefly for the accomodation of passengers and mail. However, some freight space is available, the *Liberation Daily* reported.

PLA Birthday

ALL of China celebrated the twenty-third birthday of the People's Liberation Army on August 1. In addition to a display of military might the celebration was featured by rallies on the part of workers, peasants, teachers and students, cultural groups and women's organizations with emphasis laid on opposition to American aggression in Taiwan and Korea.

In Shanghai, despite intermittent downpours, 200,000 people made up of combined ground and naval units of the PLA, workers patrol units and civilian groups took part in a mammoth parade. By sunrise of August 1, the main column of the parade got under way. Leading the procession were four huge portraits of Mao Tse-tung, Chu Teh, Stalin, and Korean leader Kim Ir Sen. These were followed by numerous heavy tanks, motorized infantry, artillery units, posters with slogans, the ground crew of the PLA air force and white uniformed marines of the PLA Navy. This was all followed by workers, peasants and other civilians.

Thousands of bystanders lined the streets to see the parade which began on the evening of July 31 and ended at noon the next day.

Women in South China

REPORTS continue to come in of the vital part women are playing in the building of a new China. From south China recent stories reveal this growing phenomenon for that sector of the country.

In a recent conference of working women in Fukien province, it was reported that women's organizations are sponsoring the movement for supporting the PLA and for raising the level of production. Aside from turning out articles needed by the army the women, in what had once been the old Soviet areas, were playing a big part in forming study groups and classes.

A report on the organization of women in Fukien shows that during the past four months, a total of 11,000 women were organized by the Women's Union and other organizations. For 1950, the conference decided to bring an additional 350,000 to 500,000 women into women's organizations.

In the neighboring province of Kwangtung, the first session of the Women's Representative Conference was held in June and included representatives of working women, peasants, fisherwomen, women students and women in the professions. In this south China province, in the area of Chaochow, 3,000 women have cultivated 200 hectares of wasteland, and are working alongside the men in flood prevention work. In the area of Samshui, women formed 70 percent of all workers engaged in dike repairing. All in all, the women of south China are carrying forward their wartime mobilization, when they took an active and important part in the anti-Japanese struggle and the war of liberation.

KMT Cashing In

DESPITE the protection of the US Seventh Fleet, the KMT on Taiwan was not too sure of the length of its stay on the island. One more step in the attempt to cash in before departing was the news that the KMT has been attempting to sell the machinery of a large sugar refining plant on Taiwan to the Thailand government at a reduced price of 300,000 pounds sterling. According to a *Hsinhua* story out of Canton, "negotiations are still in progress for closing the 'deal' whereby the KMT illegally sells national property."

The sugar refinery originally belonged to the KMT National Resources Commission and had been in operation for the past three years. The Kuomintang dismantled the plant and shipped the machinery to Hongkong where the negotiations are being carried out. A five-man mission, headed by KMT former consul-general in Singapore, was sent to Bangkok early in May to arrange the deal.

The price originally demanded by the KMT was 345,000 pounds sterling along with the condition that the money should be paid in American dollars. This was rejected by the Thailand authorities. However, in its rush to collect some money the KMT has now cut its asking price.

More Islands Liberated

DURING the month of July one unit of the PLA 4th Field Army liberated 31 small islands off the estuary of the Pearl River in Kwangtung province, according to a *Hsinhua* dispatch from Peking.

The action in this southern province during the month saw the liberation of these islands which included Mamsan Major, Mamsan Minor and the Sanmen islands. Over 500 KMT remnants were reported wiped out and eight KMT vessels sunk and several others damaged by the PLA during its amphibious operations.

While action was taking place in south China during the month, official reports revealed that the Peichishan islands, at the mouth of the Ou river in southeast Chekiang province, were liberated by a unit of the PLA 3rd Field Army. In smashing the entire power of the Kuomintang in this action more than 500 prisoners were taken, according to a Nanking dispatch from *Hsinhua*.

The Week's Business

Many local industries are forming combines to overcome their difficulties and are being aided through loans from both public and private banks.

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COUPLED with the improved industrial and commercial situation, brisker trading has been recorded in the local market lately, which is reflected by the increased turnover at the Shanghai Clearing House. A total of 1,298,102 checks went through the Clearing House in July, representing an increase of 29 percent over June. The total amount of turnover reached JMP 4,815,677,451,355, marking an increase of 37 percent in comparison with June.

The month of July witnessed the most active trading for raw silk, when 5,289 bales of various kinds of raw silk were traded for export, or four times the June total. Most of the raw silk traded was destined for New York, with a small portion for Europe.

While industrial and commercial enterprises have come into better shape, observers have pointed out that such a turning for the better marks only the beginning, inasmuch as the purchasing power of the peasants will be raised when the agrarian reform is completed, and the relations between public and private enterprises are further readjusted. In this preliminary stage of switch-over, a number of industrialists and businessmen, because of their insufficient understanding or inaccurate estimates, have embarked on the wrong path to blind production or business adventures without considering objectively the actual situation. Many simply banked on outright aid from the government, neglecting their own reformation. Still a number even utilized their capital for speculation, causing fluctuations in the prices of some commodities.

Among local industries, more than ten branches, including cotton spinning, silk weaving, towels, sheets, underwear, cigarettes and machinery manufacturing, building contractors and so forth, have formed combines under the promotion of the government, either for joint marketing of products or collection of raw materials. Such organs are playing a definite role in overcoming difficulties and maintaining production, as well as in contributing toward streamlining the business of private enterprises. The Joint Cotton Purchase Board formed by the public and private cotton mills of Shanghai, through its operation during the past 11 months following its establishment, has gone a long way in eliminating the unwarranted anxiety of many industrialists and has solved many problems.

The loan screening committee of the Shanghai Branch of the People's Bank of China approved 42 applications for loans by private enterprises during the past three months, aggregating a sum of JMP26,200,000,000. These funds are being used to coordinate the placing of processing orders and collection of products by the Trade Department of the Ministry of Industries.

The amount of loans issued by local private banks and banks jointly operated by public and private capital has also been making a steady climb. The balance of loans at the end of April came to JMP248,400,000,000, and increased to JMP253,200,000,000 by the end of May, JMP291,300,000,000 by the end of June, and to JMP352,700,000,000 by July 22. The balance of deposits of these banks came to a sum of JMP471,400,000,000 at the end of April, and it increased to JMP553,200,000,000 by the end of May; JMP558,500,000,000 by the end of June, and to JMP566,600,000,000 by July 22.

In the commodity market, meanwhile, quotations ruled steady, as the parity unit stood at JMP5,174 throughout the week under review. All foreign exchanges rates, with the exception of the TT rate for the US dollar, were lowered on July 26. The TT rate was slashed by JMP1,760 for pound sterling.

Quotations

Following is a listing of representative commodity prices.

	July 26 JMP	Aug. 2 JMP
Parity unit	5,174	5,174
US dollar (TT)	35,000	35,000
20's yarn	5,720,000	—
42's yarn	8,550,000	8,550,000
12-lb. cloth	240,000	240,000
Rice, 1st grade	254,000	257,000
Battleship flour	58,000	58,000
Peanut oil	495,000	530,000
Coal briquette	16,500	16,500
Kerosene, Kuokwang	120,000	—
Koo Pan soap	225,000	220,000

EAST CHINA

Economic Report

A REPORT on financial and economic work in the East China Zone was made to the 2nd plenary session of the East China Military and Administrative Committee by Tseng Shan, vice-chairman of the committee. The first part of the report dealt with work of the past half year and the second part outlined the main tasks ahead in the field of finance and economics.

Centralization of financial and economic work, the readjustment of relations between public and private enterprise, water conservancy and famine relief, agricultural production and the purchasing of silk and tea, and the topic of public industry, communications cooperatives, and marine products were all subjects of the first part of Tsen Shan's report.

In the second part of his report the vice-chairman of the East China Military and Administrative Committee revealed that the financial and economic difficulties facing the area are still quite considerable. This is because the task of supporting the front is arduous inasmuch as Taiwan and other islands still have to be liberated. Because of the concentration of cities and industry and commerce in this area, numerous difficulties remain to be resolved in the process of overhauling anew the entire social and economic structure. The area also contains many newly liberated regions and flood conditions have been serious. All these were reasons for difficulties which still must be met and overcome.

Among the tasks to be accomplished, Tseng Shan listed: the readjustment of taxation and the completion of the collection of public grain; the readjustment of industry and commerce; control over urban-rural trade after the autumn harvest and stabilization of commodity prices and the prevention of detrimental effects on the peasants as a result of the cheap price of grain; the prevention of floods and drought, and the training of economic cadres as well as the overcoming of bureaucratism and authoritarianism.

Rely on Masses

IN his speech to the East China Finance and Economic Committee, Chairman Jao Su-shih in referring to the future stated:

"Under the new situation, because the people throughout the country are striving for a turn for the better in national financial and economic conditions, the financial and economic tasks in East China are very heavy and complicated. However, because our financial and economic work is aimed at serving the people, because we collect from and spend on the people, we are sure to enjoy their entire support no matter what we give to, or take from them.

"Under the correct leadership of Chairman Mao and the Central People's Government and with the intensified solidarity of the people in East China, we shall be able to accomplish any task no matter how difficult, provided that we warn ourselves against arrogance and impatience and rely upon the masses in developing achievements and overcoming mistakes."

SHANGHAI

Government Retrenchment

RETRENCHMENT and reorganization within the different bureaus and departments of the Shanghai city government during the past four months have brought on the streamlining of many branches of administration and the abolition of unnecessary institutions left over from KMT days.

As a result of this administrative "house-cleaning" many overlappings in authority, unscientific differentiation of work and unnecessary counter-checking and cross-checking systems have been ruled out.

Under the program of retrenchment and reorganization 2,182 employees, of whom 1,300 were cadre members, were placed outside the staff list and they have been taking training courses in eight different groups. Another example is to be found in the abolition of the posts of chief secretaries in various bureaus and departments of the city government.

However beneficial these results are, it is recognized that they represent the conclusion of the initial stage of reorganization only. It has been pointed out that there is much more to be done in connection with the strengthening of the new system so as to do away with whatever remaining vestiges of bureaucracy there may be and to step up efficiency.

Loans to Factories

IN line with government policy of readjusting relations between public and private enterprise, the Shanghai branch of the People's Bank of China has made preliminary adjustments regarding the release of loans to private firms. The bank also has mobilized different private and public joint banking corporations to extend credit loans to private enterprises so as to help improve business and turnover.

The granting of loans is made by a committee, under the leadership of the People's Bank. This committee acts on the principle that only legitimate industrial and commercial enterprises that are beneficial to the people and the state should be granted loans provided such enterprises are conducted on a normal labor-capital relationship and are producing on a self-sustaining basis.

Cultural Palace Opens

AUGUST third saw the opening of Shanghai's Cultural Palace for workers, following two months of preparation. The formal inauguration ceremony is scheduled to take place on October 1.

The Cultural Palace, the first of its kind in this city, will have three departments devoted to the task of developing workers' musical and theatrical talents, reading and to help them learn new trades.

For music and theater no tuition fee is required; only a letter of recommendation by the labor union is necessary. Any worker, upon presenting his union card, is entitled to borrow books and members of labor unions and their family members can enroll in classes studying trades and handicrafts.

Articles of Interest:

China's Industrialization

Li Tsu-chen, well-known industrialist and member of the Central People's Government Council, discusses the aims and difficulties confronting China's industrial program. Main problems are the wide dispersion of natural resources, underdevelopment of transportation and shortage of capital. The writer thinks industrialists' fear of "socialization" is uncalled-for.

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THE industrialization of a nation, says Mr. Li, means reliance on its own natural resources, capital, technique and machinery to produce finished products for its people and to guarantee the safety of the state. China, for thousands of years chiefly (90%) agricultural, still farms by primitive methods. Industry must be developed to supplement agriculture and to industrialize it; in this way only can the people's livelihood be improved.

Three necessary factors of industrialization are material resources, capital, and talent. As for the first, the writer says that China must begin by fully investigating her natural resources. For capital, the way has been pointed out by Chairman Mao: with land reform, the farming population will increase its production, thus raising its purchasing power. This will provide expanded markets for finished products and provide the funds for industry. Also, increased agricultural production (especially food and cotton), means that imports can be dispensed with, consequently saving foreign exchange.

Development of oil resources will also save an estimated US$200,000,000 which can be used for the purchase of machinery. The shortage of talent can be overcome by large-scale training programs, and by the more efficient use of available technical men. Of these three factors, Mr. Li sees the thorough investigation of resources as most important.

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HE points out that natural resources are most abundant in border, out of-the-way areas. The Northeast, with good northern deposits of coal, iron and salt, and with a comparatively well-developed industry, will be the industrial base. Hunan, with its iron, wolfram, zinc, antimony, manganese and some coal, can also be made an industrial area. Szechuen lacks coal and iron, but might become a light industrial area. Kweichow reportedly has iron deposits; this, combined with Szechuen power, may provide the basis for an electrical industry. The writer estimates the resources of Sinkiang second only to those of the Northeast, with coal, iron, antimony, zinc and copper in abundance; its industrial role will be an important one.

In general, there is an inadequate supply of copper. The only considerable deposits are in Yunnan. Also, owing to the remoteness of most resources, of the greatest importance for their development is the building up of communications and transportation.

There is the question as to whether heavy or light industry should receive major attention. The Common Program states that heavy industry must receive primary attention, without however neglecting light industry. In reply to private capitalists who have asked, "If the state is to play a role in both heavy and light industry, where do we come in?" Mr. Li said that those light industries serving the interests of the state and the people's livelihood will be assisted.

Planning is necessary; in the past, as most industrial enterprises were owned by foreigners (westerners in the Shanghai area, Japanese in the Northeast), the best interests of the Chinese people were not considered; there was no planning; and heavy industry was not developed. However, some foundations were laid for Chinese enterprise in light industry as for example in the textile and flour milling trades. At present, China's chemical industry produces both alkalis and acids, and when the sulfur supply is increased, production of sulfuric acid will be sufficient for the demand. The writer says that the present task in light industry is to select those which require special attention and develop them with all-out efforts.

Development of heavy industry must begin with communications. The iron and steel industry, in addition to supplying the necessary steel for railroad construction, will also make possible the construction of tractors and motor vehicles, which in turn will aid the mechanization of agriculture and solve the problem of raw materials for industry. The resultant raising of the farmers' purchasing power will solve the problem of a market for finished products.

The two factors of available power for industrial needs and location of raw materials must be balanced carefully. Planning is vitally important here, and the writer warns that "the mistake of concentrating industrial plants in a few large cities must not be repeated."

In conclusion, Mr. Li discounted the fears of certain capitalists about eventual "socialization." He recalled that Chairman Mao said the change to socialism will take a considerable time. "After all, socialization brings good times to everybody," said Mr. Li, "and this is something to look forward to. Assuredly, industrialists who have contributed to the state will be duly compensated.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

KOREA

"Korean Fiasco"

WHILE American troops continued to suffer setbacks in Korea, Stanley Earl, ECA labor advisor in Korea, now back in America called for Congress to subpoena every ranking officer of the US Korean mission and make a "full and complete investigation of the Korean fiasco." Said Earl, "I don't think the Congress of the US knew what was going on in Korea and I don't think the public knew."

Just evacuated with his family from South Korea where he served as a Marshall Plan labor consultant since last fall, the former secretary of the Oregon State CIO Council was scathing in his criticism of the "corrupt" Syngman Rhee government and American diplomats. Earl stated upon his arrival back in America that "Some of our diplomats are too much above people. You can't insure democracy with cocktail parties for the big shots and conferences with the bankers. I told them to get out and talk to the people, but they never did."

Describing the South Korean workers as "oppressed, suppressed and regimented," Earl said the Rhee government "couldn't distinguish between communism and unionism." The former ECA labor advisor also claimed, "The people I worked with were continually being put in jail." After spending half his time trying to get South Korea unionists released from jail, Earl in disgust demanded he be sent back to Washington to explain what was going on. His request was turned down.

"I had no support," he said. "I got clamped down. Last year the Rhee government put 150,000 people with families in jail. The prisons are bulging." The South Korean people had no confidence in the Rhee government, Earl claimed. "The workers had no faith in the corrupt union leadership of the government-controlled unions, or in the word of the government itself in adjudicating grievances."

Graft and Brutality

EARL also reported that the Rhee army was shot through with graft and corruption, "although it was there for anyone to see who took the trouble to look." He stated he knew of one South Korean division commander who charged his troops one million *wan* a month for use of their mess hall. Before it fell apart, the South Korean army confiscated rice from the public the day the war began although army warehouses were crammed with rice supplies, Earl asserted.

The cost of monthly supply of rice for a family of five was four times the $2.50 earned by the average South Korean worker in a month under the country's runaway inflation, Earl revealed. Workers in the coal mines, he said, were three months behind in their pay.

Referring to the June parliamentary elections, Earl pointed out that in the campaign preceding the elections, "Rhee charged all 'middle of the road' opponents with being Communists or leftists. Some of the opposition was thrown into jail and subjected to the brutal police methods of a force still made up in a large part of police who dominated their fellow Koreans for 30 years under Japanese rule."

No Place to Retreat

THE fifth week of the war in Korea saw the forces of the Korean People's Army continue to push the American and South Korean troops back. By the end of July the retreating "United Nations" forces were battling to hold on to their rapidly dwindling "defense box."

Kumchon, a strategic point in the American defense, was under heavy KPA attack. By July 30, a small group of North Koreans were reported only three miles from Kumchon, which is about 32 miles from the major road and rail junction of Taegu.

The seriousness of the American situation was attested to by Lieutenant-General Walton H. Walker, Commander of US ground troops in Korea. He implored his men to hold on at all cost. "Surrender is impossible," he said. "There is no place left to withdraw to. There will be no Dunkirk—nor is there going to be a Bataan."

In contrast to the general's exhortion, a MacArthur's Headquarters spokesman said that withdrawals were inevitable as long as the Americans were outnumbered and unable to man a continuous line.

If Kumchon fell, another Headquarters spokesman said, the North Koreans might turn the whole Allied line running east from Hamchang. If that happened, General Walker would have to decide whether to continue gradual withdrawals to maintain the shrinking "box" around Taegu, Fusan and Pohang, or to fall back around Fusan.

Meanwhile, one of south Korea's three major ports, Ryusu (Yosu), was liberated by the KPA. This left the two ports of Masan and Fusan still in the hands of the Americans and South Koreans. In addition, Suncheon, a commercial center on the Korean southern coast, also was liberated. Sunchon is about 25 miles northwest of Ryusu (Yosu) and is a communication center in addition to being a vital commercial point. Most of Korea's farm and marine products are exported from Sunchon.

Rhee Adviser Accuses US

AN excuse to occupy Taiwan and a political crisis in South Korea were the two chief reasons why Syngman Rhee's American-backed "northern expedition" got under way on June 25, according to Mun Hak Bong, former adviser of the US Counter Intelligence Corps and adviser to Syngman Rhee.

According to the one-time Rhee official, in a broadcast from Phyongyang, the Americans and their puppets decided to start the civil war before July because they believed that the Chinese PLA would attack Taiwan in that month. The US wanted to start the Korean civil war in order to finish with Korea and occupy Taiwan before the PLA landed on the island, he stated.

Another reason which impelled the Rhee forces to launch their attack was because the government was torn with internal dissension and South Korea was beset by economic difficulties and political disorders, said Mun Hak Bong. "Syngman Rhee hoped to overcome the crisis through the adventure of a civil was," Mun claimed.

Shipping Clampdown

AMERICAN ship owners, working with anti-Communist maritime unions, have set up machinery to keep "reds" off merchant ships and maintain the flow of American defense material abroad. More than 50 leaders of shipping associations and seafaring unions have pledged "full cooperation" with the government during the Korean emergency.

Under the new set-up these labor leaders along with management leaders have agreed to help the government screen "bad security risks" on the waterfront. The screening system will help Coast Guard officers who are present when a merchant ship crew is signed on. With the help of "labor and management" leaders the Coast Guard officials will have lists of "Communist Party card carriers, subversive and 'notorious' fellow travelers" to check against crew lists.

The unions have agreed to furnish replacements for any persons kept off ships by the screening Coast Guard officers.

INDIA

Eye on UN Seat

SIMULTANEOUSLY with India's efforts to settle the Korean war and seat the Chinese government in the United Nations, comes a report from Washington that Nehru's notes to Moscow, London, and Washington implied, if not actually suggested, the election of India and China to permanent seats on the Security Council.

The Washington "source" said the implication would be that India should "counterbalance" the entry into the Council of the Chinese Communists. India has been only a temporary member of the council and the Washington report stated that its entry as a permanent member would also emphasize the importance of Asia in world affairs.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Nehru also was reported from Washington to have addressed another note to Acheson in a further effort to have the Chinese government admitted to the UN. The message was withheld from publication at Nehru's request, the report said.

Diplomatic officials in Washington said that Nehru sent the note to Acheson to back his original proposal made to both America and the USSR on July 13. The latest message was reported to explain Nehru's motives in making his proposal and was apparently intended to forestall an American rejection which appeared in the offing. Nehru was said to have urged the Americans to abandon their attitude that the North Koreans must stop fighting and withdraw to the 38th Parallel before China's membership in the UN could be considered.

Nehru's new appeal came as the American rejection to his first proposal was being drafted. From Washington it was revealed that the US government was not expected to change its position.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Malaya Clampdown

THE government recently took on the power to close down any newspaper or publication in the Malaya Federation or Singapore whose continued existence would be "prejudicial to the successful prosecution" of the campaign against the terrorists, or which "foment opposition" to United Nations action in Korea. Another regulation controls the importation of any similar "prejudicial publication."

There are to be penalties for the printers, publishers, sellers, distributors, or reproducers of a publication prohibited from sale or publication. The penalities are imprisonment for a term not longer than two years or a fine not more than $1,000, or both. The possession of a prohibited publication brings imprisonment for not more than six months or a fine not exceeding $500, or both.

A basis for a system of "book-burning" is found in the clause which states that any article coming into the Colony or Federation which is suspected of containing "prejudicial publications" may be withheld from delivery and may in the "absolute discretion" of the controller be destroyed. The controller (a number of "Controllers of Imported Publications" are to be appointed to carry out the new regulations) also has the power to search a traveler who is suspected of possessing such literature.

US in Indo-China

AMERICAN officials in Saigon were awaiting the arrival of the first two shiploads of US military aid to French troops in Indo-China. The cargoes were to comprise equipment for forces being organized by Indo-China's three Western-recognized states, Bao Dai's Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, and aircraft engines and spare parts for the French air force.

This aid was in addition to the military equipment expected to be recommended by the US military mission now "revaluating" the situation in Indo-China. The mission spent some time in Cambodia and was destined to fly north to "see the situation on the Chinese frontier."

General Erskine Graves of the US Marines, leading member of the American mission, said in Saigon that the French Army in Indo-China was the most powerful force fighting communism in southeast Asia. Despite this powerful force, the general revealed that US supplies would help to make the French forces even stronger. He also said the military section of the mission would study in detail amounts and types of equipment needed to bolster the French and Bao Dai forces.

The mission was expected to leave Indo-China around the beginning of this month. The 20-man group was scheduled to visit Indonesia and Thailand after leaving Indo-China.

Indonesian Bases for US

THE establishment of three US military bases in Indonesia has been discussed in Jakarta between the US ambassador and President Soekarno, according to a Netherlands news agency report. Responsible circles in Jakarta were much occupied with problems relating to Indonesian defense, particularly since the outbreak of war in Korea, the report stated.

The American ambassador was believed to have declared that the US was interested only in military bases on the islands of Morotai and Ambon, and in Hollandia, New Guinea. These would form a strategic triangle on the defense line from Japan to Australia.

The Indonesian government was believed to have felt that these plans indicated nothing would be done to defend Indonesia if Singapore fell.

US-Thai Alliance

THE expected arrival of the US military aid mission in Bangkok was seen as the prelude to a military alliance between America and Thailand. Whether or not the mission would hit Indonesia or Thailand first after leaving Indo-China was not clear.

Political and diplomatic observers in Bangkok considered the coordination of Thailand's defense plans with American strategy as a logical sequel to the Thai government's prompt response for aid in Korea.

Bangkok reported that US military instructors and liaison officers will be stationed at Thai army headquarters in Bangkok as well as with Thai garrison in provincial centers, while US arms equipment will "pour into Thailand on a large scale."

THE WEST

British-Soviet Trade Up

BRITAIN and the Soviet Union increased mutual trade by 300 percent over last year, regardless of the cold war, official British statistics showed. Board of Trade figures revealed that Britain in the first four months of 1950 bought four times as much from the USSR as it did in the same period last year, and exported one-third more to the Soviet Union.

Imports by the British from the Soviet Union amounted to nearly $30,000,000 worth of foodstuffs and products — chiefly grains — between January and April. British exports amounted to $14,000,000 worth of material—chiefly machinery.

Trade sources in Britain said the increased trade between the two nations is expected to continue throughout the year.

US Draft Dodgers

BY the end of July the US Army reported that nearly 24 percent of the New York men called in the draft in the first nine days since recruiting was resumed had failed to report.

Apparently the Korean war was not having too much of an effect on prospective GIs. Of 1,720 men called, only 1,309 showed up for examination, the Army Information Office revealed.

Strict prosecution has been ordered for anyone who willfully disobeys the draft law.

Much Ado About Nothing

WHILE Belgium's Social Democrat leaders howled for the head of King Leopold, following his recent return to the throne, the situation almost got out of hand. Following nation-wide mass indignation which threatened to develop into outright civil war Leopold was forced to step down. However, the joker in the deck was the agreement on the part of the leaders of the Catholic, Socialist and Liberal parties to accept Leopold's son as the new monarch.

Threatened by widespread strikes and rioting throughout Belgium, Leopold agreed to abdicate on September 7, 1951. This is the day his son will be 21 and eligible for the throne. Whether or not the mass movement against the present monarch, which apparently has been skilfully channeled by the Social Democrats, can be smothered successfully by the politicos until the new king takes over remains to be seen. Already, appeals to strikers to accept Leopold's son have been hooted down.

Leopold Not Wanted

ONE week after the return to the throne of Belgium's Nazi-collaborating monarch, King Leopold, saw the nation turned into a virtual armed camp as mounting opposition to the king was manifested. Demonstrations flared up throughout the country while organized labor pledged a general strike.

As the situation became more tense the government recalled occupation troops from Germany and ordered soldiers into strikebound industries as rioting increased in the nation's capital, Brussels. The Defense and Interior Ministries invoked a 23-year-old law for military requisitioning in emergencies as crippling strikes spread all over Belgium.

First units of the forces recalled from Germany, according to some reports were to be sent into essential industries to guard and provide basic maintenance of blast furnaces and coal pits, and go into public utility services.

Even airliners were grounded when the pilots and navigation staffs of the Belgian airline Sabena went out on strike. Many of the striking airmen were ex-members of the wartime Belgian section of the RAF.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

SOURCE BOOK ON FAR EASTERN POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES, by Donald G. Tewksbury. Preliminary edition, published in mimeographed form by Professor Tewksbury, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City, 1949. 189 pages. Reviewed by P.W.

* * *

THIS volume, a collection of some of the more important speeches, statements, articles and other documents relating to modern historical developments in China and Japan, is a welcome addition to existing reference material and will prove of great use to students of the Far East.

The China section, containing a total of 26 documents, ranges from the Manifesto of the Hsing Chung Hui by Sun Yat-sen in 1894 to Chiang Kai-shek's Statement on Retirement, made on January 21, 1949. Included are many well known documents, such as Sun Yat-sen's will, as well as a number of lesser known, but valuable papers, such as the Constitution of the Chinese Soviet Republic in Kiangsi.

While this reviewer is less familiar with matters pertaining to Japan, it appears that Professor Tewksbury's selection of documents relating to that country will be equally useful to students of Japanese affairs. From reading the listing of Japanese documents, it appears that most are translations of a number of the more important imperial rescripts, ranging from the one on the restoration in 1868 to those post-surrender ones relating to the new—and for all practical purposes shortlived—Japanese constitution framed by the American occupation authorities after the end of the war.

A few of the Japanese documents are particularly interesting to read in the light of today's developments. Among these are "Dissolve the Political Parties," an article by Yosuke Matsuoka written in 1934, the "Berlin-Tokyo Anti-Comintern Pact," signed in 1936 and General MacArthur's "Basic Initial Post-Surrender Directive," issued on November 8, 1945.

The chief shortcoming of the work is that there is not enough of it. A number of important speeches and papers are omitted. This is particularly true of the sections dealing with the war-time and post-war years. Professor Tewksbury points out in his preface that this is the case, explaining that it was impossible to include some documents because of their length or because English translations were not yet available and that some important material, such as the complete speeches and writings of Mao Tse-tung, were purposely left out because they had been or were in the process of being published as separate works.

While it is obvious that such a volume cannot include *all* important documents, it is the opinion of this reviewer that it is just such a volume as this which could perform an invaluable service to American scholarship at this time by providing as complete as possible a selection of speeches, articles, laws, and other documents tracing the development of the people's movement in China and Japan. While the record of such people as Chiang Kai-shek certainly has its place in any historical compilation, it approaches insignificance when compared with the records of the speeches and articles of the new China's present leaders. All through Asia the people are on the march and if foreign students are to understand and appreciate this mighty development, they must have made available the past and present record, as shown in the speeches, articles and statements of its leaders, as well as in the laws and regulations which govern political, economic and other activities in the liberated areas.

Professor Tewksbury has undoubtedly put in a great deal of work and has gone to considerable expense in bringing out this volume. However, it is to be hoped that a future edition (this one is labeled a preliminary edition) can be made more inclusive as it would enhance its already considerable value. It would also be helpful to the student if a listing of those more important documents which may be left out due to considerations of length or because of their independent publication elsewhere, could be included.

In any event the present volume will be a valuable addition to the reference shelf of the student of Far Eastern affairs.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

the progressive newsweekly

For readers in China who wish to keep abreast of developments in America, the National Guardian is available by second class mail for US$2 a year, postage included. Checks should be made payable to National Guardian, 17 Murray Street, New York 7, New York, U.S.A.

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 163)

porting the voice of the Chinese people. On the problem of Japan, you have opposed the US policy of supporting the Japanese reactionary elements and refusing the signing of the peace treaty with participation of USSR and New China.

This mission of yours has no reason to be given up because now the whole of China has been liberated and the Central People's Government has been established. US imperialism and the governments of other capitalistic countries are trying their hardest to have people misinformed about the real condition and progress in New China. Your reports and interpretation about the policies of our government and the life of the Chinese people will certainly help to clear up the rumors and distorted stories carried in US and other imperialistic papers. Your circulation may be restricted but each copy of your Review will serve more of its purpose and will actually have your view shared by many more readers than the number of your circulation may indicate.

As to the financial difficulty which forced you to make the above decision, I am sure your readers both in China and abroad will be only too willing to help. They will either help to increase your circulation or make other contributions.

I hope the Review will continue to appear.

M. YAO

Shanghai
July 24, 1950

DISHEARTENING

To the Editor:

The China Weekly Review has been a friend to me for over 30 years, including the years it was published in the name of Millard's Review. A paper run by our American friends at the start, it took into its staff Chinese members in various capacities whose number grew steadily by the years. They too contributed not a small part in bringing the paper closer to the fold of Chinese readers and, what is more important, in keeping up with the tide of the days. Perhaps no one can disagree that the Review has served us as a tongue because it spoke on our side; in the same way, it has served us as an upholder of justice because it stood for public interests; therefore it has accomplished splendid work not only for the readers but for the Chinese nation as well.

It is disheartening to learn from the July 15 issue that the Review is going to cease publication with the August 5 issue for reasons as expressed. Is there anything we can do for it?

There is a lot I wish to say but I could find no better words than an old Chinese saying: "Nothing is so saddening as to say goodbye to a parting freind!"

JAMEN MOH

Tientsin
July 17, 1950

FIGHTER FOR JUSTICE

To the Editor:

Ever since the end of World War II, I have been a constant reader of the Review and have, more often than not, accepted your viewpoint on world events. Though not a subscriber I have never failed to get it issue by issue from the news-stand near my house. To my disappointment I could not buy it during the past two weeks and the newsboy could not tell me why. Having learned from the newspaper that you are going to suspend the publication of the Review "because of financial difficulties," I came to know the "why" and consider it my duty to write you this letter.

First of all I feel, as the average reader may feel, that you are one of the best fighters for peace and democracy against imperialism and that, as such, you should not create the impression that you are now giving it up "because of financial difficulties." A fighter for justice

never ceases to fight "because of financial difficulties;" unless killed, he fights on. But even as forced death comes to his door, he struggles to kill more enemies before being killed. I remember vividly that even in the worst days of the KMT rule, you, as an English magazine editor in Shanghai, fought single-handed against both KMT reactionaries and American imperialism for its intervention with Chinese home affairs. You fought bravely and stubbornly on two fronts, a fact which, I am sure, will forever be remembered in the mind of every reader.

Secondly, you have not only done a great deal in fighting for the cause of justice, but also uniting your readers both at home and abroad. You have helped a great number of foreign readers to understand and, in turn, love the Chinese people. During those hard civil war years, when a great many foreign people were ill-informed of China's stuation and the Chinese people's real intentions, it was your weekly that gave them a true picture of the Chinese scene and neutralized the rumor-mills of the reactionaries and imperialists.

Now we are living in a liberated China, but not for a moment should we forget that the imperialists are arrogant. They are instigating a new war which we are all against. We still have a long way to go before we attain our common objectives. In the name of peace and democracy, I urge upon you the necessity of carrying on your sacred work for truth and justice for which you have fought so long. I am convinced, therefore, that the readers of your weekly will help you raise money by popular subscription.

WONG PING-SEN

Shanghai
July 25, 1950

HEARTFELT SYMPATHY

To the Editor:

Let me express my heartfelt sympathy over your paper having to close simply because of financial difficulties. As you have done your part as a conscientious pressman, and that quite brilliantly, the disappearance of your weekly from our publishing field will forever be a sad memory to us.

Now that a bright and beautiful one world is in sight there yet remains much for you to do in the better interpretation and understanding between the American and Chinese people in the coming years.

MAN IN THE STREET

Shanghai
July 28, 1950

MISSION NOT OVER

To the Editor:

The announcement in your July 15 issue that the **Review** is planning to close in the near future because of financial difficulties caught me unawares. That it is hard to cope with your financial difficulties has been known to the readers long before the liberation days, so your decision to discontinue the publication did not come really as a complete surprise.

I have witnessed and have so admired for the past years the undaunted spirit you and your **Review** displayed in the dark days against the evil rule of the KMT reactionaries, with rumors thriving that the KMT bands were going to blackmail the **Review**. Those were your hard days and you took up the challenge quite readily. I well remember all of those Saturday mornings, the first thing I used to do was to get a copy of the **Review** which carried objective reports and comments on current events of popular interest.

But it was after the liberation of Shanghai that I was further convinced of the **Review**'s allegiance to the interest of the Chinese people. I found the **Review**, an American-owned publication, sharing the elation of China's great revolutionary success, despite the "cold stares" from certain quarters here and abroad. In the fourteen months after the liberation, the **Review** has won the confidence of the Chinese people.

As a result of the successful outcome of the revolution of the Chinese people, the American government has invented and made use of every disagraceful means to try to discredit the Chinese people and to thrust a wall between the American people and the Chinese people. Among so many rumors deliberately designed to blind the public, you have been courageously facing and presenting the truth for foreign residents in China and people abroad. This effort will long be remembered by the Chinese people as well as the American people.

For reasons stated above I earnestly appeal to you to reconsider your decision to close.

Since your financial difficulty is no new problem, I believe, with your experience in the past, you will tackle it with full confidence, if you realize the **Review**'s mission has not yet come to its end, but on the contrary, will prosper with every success of the Chinese people and likewise of the American people. If some arrangement can be made, please do it.

I further propose that more articles be added to the **Review** on the struggles of the American people on all fronts for freedom and democracy.

CHENG YUNG-CHUNG

Shanghai
July 24, 1950

TRY TO CONTINUE

To the Editor:

I was very unhappy to read in the **Review** of July 15 that you are going to stop publishing beginning on August 5. I have been a faithful reader of your magazine ever since the end of the War of Resistance against the Japanese and note with deep regret your inability to continue the **Review** because of financial difficulties.

As a foreign publication the **Review**, before and since liberation, has continued to gain respect in the eyes of all progressive Chinese. Its outlook on China has been far different from that of so many foreigners who, under the Chiang rule, came to China not to give but to take. The **Review** in those days sought and, to a great extent, kept alive the supply of vital news which progressives in China found so hard to find out under the oppression of the Kuomintang. Since liberation, the **Review** has shown itself to be still a worthwhile publication and has clearly manifested its desire to understand and interpret the new China.

Particularly these days when American imperialism is straining to embroil the world in war it is particularly important that an American progressive publication be issued in China as an evidence for the Chinese people of real internationalism. I have no other advice to offer you except that if it is possible you should try to continue the **Review**. If you do so I am sure you will meet with success. Could the **Review** be published once a month in an effort to overcome difficulties?

Y. C. Yen

Hankow
July 20, 1950

CLOSURE REGRETTED

To the Editor:

I am struck with surprise and regret to learn that such a good English periodical as the **Review**, with so high a standing and so long a history, will be brought to an end with the August 5 issue. It has been heartily enjoyed and warmly supported by numerous readers.

It is true, as the editorial in the July 15 issue stated, that the **Review** was one of the few publications in preliberation days which provided a forum for progressive Chinese to speak out what they wanted and had to say. After liberation of the mainland, and since the establishment of the People's Government of China, the **Review** remained one of the few publications to give foreign readers, both here and abroad, an objective and fair picture of conditions and developments in the new China.

We cannot fail to realize the great contribution the **Review** has made, not only to China but to the world, for it has spoken judiciously against the unscrupulous wrongdoings of the then reactionary government and in support of the great and just cause of the liberation of the Chinese people. It has constantly given its sympathy and encouragement to the efforts of the people of the world to maintain worldwide lasting peace.

I sincerely hope our people, and especially readers of the **Review**, will try their best to render timely assistance to the **Review** in tackling its financial problems. I hope the **Review** will at all costs continue.

BARING NEE

Minteh Middle School
Changsha
July 20, 1950

TIGHTEN YOUR BELT

To the Editor:

If you are determined to close the **Review** with the August 5 issue, this will be my last letter to you. But before saying farewell, I want to suggest something which might help you tide over your present hard times, and to continue to fulfill your duty as a journalist: to interpret for foreign readers the real status of New China.

In Shanghai, since the liberation each public organization, in order to rid itself of past inefficiency and to adopt an attitude of responsibility toward the people, has launched a campaign of reorganization and retrenchment. Time has confirmed the wisdom of this course.

I am a minor staff-member in a state-operated enterprise. I can assure you that you will also find the policy of reorganization and retrenchment an effective remedy for your difficulties. I hope you will continue to carry out your unfinished task as long as you can.

WONG SZE-LIANG

Shanghai
July 29, 1950

MONTHLY REVIEW

To the Editor:

A few months ago, when the price of the **Review** was reduced to JMP 4,000 per copy, I became hopeful that it would not suspend publication. I thought that if there had been no financial difficulties then the price of the **Review** would not have been reduced. I was shocked when I read the editorial of the July 15 issue announcing the closure of the **Review** with the August 5 issue.

I am of the opinion that the **Review** must not close as it supplies excellent material on the New China for foreign readers. My humble suggestion is that, beginning from September 1950, you publish a **China Monthly Review**, carry out a retrenchment policy, and fix the price of the monthly at JMP 10,000 per copy.

H. C. LIN

Shanghai
July 31, 1950

The number of letters which have been received during the past three weeks, especially from readers expressing their regret at our earlier decision to close and from readers urging that the Review be continued, have been more numerous than in any other such period. Unfortunately there has not been room to publish them all, even though we devoted considerably more space to the letters columns in this issue.

The editors wish to take this opportunity to thank the readers who have sent in expressions of their support and their appreciation in recent weeks. Our decision to change the Review to a monthly publication and thereby attempt to "overcome our difficulties" and carry on has been in large measure due to the advice and offers of support which have been received from so many of our readers.—Editor.

The Review's English Lesson CXLII

A Reader's Questions

THIS week, we are happy to have some questions from a Shanghai reader of the *Review*, Mr. Lincoln Yao. As this is the last lesson in this series, may we take this opportunity of thanking the many readers who have shown their interest in this department by asking questions concerning grammatical points, and by giving us their suggestions. We hope these lessons have been of some guidance to those interested in good English usage. And now to Mr. Yao's questions:

Rubber check: This is a colloquial term for a check drawn against insufficient funds. It is also, and more formally, called a dishonored check. When such a check is returned by the bank, it is said to "bounce." In the sentence, "The butcher was fined for issuing rubber checks," the butcher had written checks against either a non-existent account in a bank, or an account which did not "cover" the amount of the checks. So his checks bounced.

Chifforobe: This word, used chiefly in the US, denotes an article of furniture. It is formed from two words, "**chiffonier**" and "ward**robe**." A chiffonier is a high and narrow chest of drawers, usually surmounted by a mirror. A wardrobe (from the French *garderobe*) is, among other meanings, a kind of tall, movable closet with a door, in which clothes are hung. Thus, a chifforobe is a cabinet with a narrow clothes closet on one side and a built-in chest of drawers on the other.

Reflect: To reflect, from the Latin "to bend back," as commonly used means either to give back an image of, as a mirror, or to turn over in the mind, to think, to meditate. The use of this verb in the sentence "I prepared an inventory reflecting all property then located at our Woosung works" is thus not good usage. It is much simpler and better to say, ". . . inventory of all property."

No time like the present: The idea of the rapidity with which time flies by, never to return, and that we should therefore make good use of every minute, is so ancient that its origins are lost. It has been given expression in many proverbial forms; for example, the ancient Greek Pittacus of Mitylene is credited with: "Seize time by the forelock."

Say it with flowers: This, although originally merely an advertising slogan, has come to have a proverbial force by much repetition. It is credited to one Patrick F. O'Keefe, and is the slogan of the Society of American Florists. The idea, of course, is that one should express one's sentiments by sending flowers, rather than in some other way. In addition to emphasizing the traditional role of flowers in love, marriage, birth and death, the slogan is designed to make more money for the florists.

Cadre: This word, from the Latin *quadrus*, a square, means a skeleton, scheme, framework. It has a special military meaning also: the basic framework or organization of a military unit (the officers), around which newly enlisted men are formed. However, cadre has come to be the accepted translation of the term 幹部, meaning an individual official of a government or other organization, as in the sentence, "Each cadre must till one-tenth of a *mow* of wasteland.

Proper—competent: As applied to the noun "authorities," both adjectives might be used, with slight difference in meaning. **Proper** means suitable, appropriate, correct; **competent** means suitable, having authority, qualified.

Land property: Property may be of different kinds: land, money, jewels, securities, etc. It is customary to speak of land property, rather than landed property. In the US, it is spoken of as real property or real estate.

Agrarian: As an adjective, the dictionary says this word means relating to land, especially farm or public land, or to its ownership; as a noun, a person who is in favor of an equal division of public lands. Since the latter usage is not widely known, it is better to use the word as an adjective in both cases: agrarian reform law; he is an agrarian reformer.

Aggression—invasion: The difference between these two words, as either might be used in the sentence, "Oppose US imperialist aggression against (invasion of) Taiwan and Korea," is that aggression is a more general term than invasion, which should properly refer to one act. An invasion is defined as a warlike or hostile entrance into the possessions or domains of another; the incursion of an army for conquest or plunder. While aggression may also be used in the sense of a single act—the first attack or act of hostility, leading to war—it has the more extended meaning of the practice of making hostile attacks or encroachments upon others. Thus, in the above sentence, if the meaning is to oppose the present US intervention in Korea, **invasion** should be used; if the meaning is to oppose US imperialist policy in general, then **aggression** would be better.

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